Stepping Forward - Sharing What Works

An Overview of Initiatives - Australian Governments Addressing the Needs of Vulnerable Young People

MCEETYA Ministerial Subcommittee on Young People's Transitions

In July 2001 MCEETYA established a short-term Ministerial Subcommittee on Young People's Transitions to develop practical options for strengthening transition pathways for young people who are disconnected or at risk of becoming disconnected. This followed the release of *Footprints to the Future*, the report of the Prime Minister's Youth Pathways Action Plan Taskforce in May 2001. The Ministerial Subcommittee examined issues and actions arising from *Footprints to the Future* recommendations 16 - 23. These recommendations focus on:

- Early recognition skills
- Timely responses to young people 'at risk' of disconnection from peers, family, school and the community
- Community-based activities for young people at risk of becoming disconnected
- Effective responses for young people disconnected from community life
- Individualised support approaches
- New approaches for engaging young people in community learning environments
- Access to diverse vocational learning experiences
- Access to employment opportunities and programmes

Ministers recognise that it is important to ensure coordinated responses to the needs of vulnerable young people. As Community Services Ministers also have responsibility for these young people the Chair of the Community Services Ministers' Conference (CSMC) was invited to join the Ministerial Subcommittee.

The Ministerial Subcommittee on Young People's Transitions comprised the following Ministers:

**Queensland**

Hon Matt Foley MP, Queensland Minister for Employment, Training and Youth and Minister for the Arts (Chair)

**Tasmania**

Hon Paula Wriedt MHA, Minister for Education

**Victoria**

Hon Lynne Kosky MP, Minister for Education and Training

Hon Bronwyn Pike MP, Minister for Community Services and Housing and Chair, Community Services Ministers' Conference

**South Australia**

Hon Trish White MP, Minister for Education and Children's Services

**New South Wales**

Hon John Watkins MP, Minister for Education and Training
Stepping Forward - Sharing What Works includes initiatives that:

- specifically target at risk or disconnected young people; and
- while having a broader focus, contribute to building the foundations of support needed to promote the wellbeing, participation and identification of young people in vulnerable circumstances.

Stepping Forward - Sharing What Works provides a national picture of current activity across all governments and complements the Ministerial Declaration Stepping Forward - improving pathways for all young people, developed by the Ministerial Subcommittee.

Although the stocktake of initiatives was undertaken against Footprints to the Future recommendations 16 - 23, a great many of the initiatives presented in this report also address issues raised in other recommendations.

Footprints to the Future, recommendations 16 - 23.

Click on the Recommendations to take you to the Initiatives.

The taskforce recommends that:

- every school develop its capacity to recognise, at the earliest possible time, behaviour issues which indicate that young people are at risk of becoming disconnected from their peers, family, school and community.
- all teachers, in-school support staff and the staff of youth and community agencies have opportunities for professional development, through initial and in-service training, that equips them with the skills for early recognition of 'at risk' behaviours in young people and assists them to effectively engage families and other appropriate supports in school and the community.
- peer support networks are established in schools and local communities with appropriate training and support for peer network facilitators.
- local community and government agencies be adequately resourced and skilled to play a role in the early recognition of 'at risk' behaviours and in responding appropriately.

The taskforce recommends that:

- every school has established policies, processes, protocols and practices that promote early recognition and intervention, including access to an identified network of local agencies, with the capacity to address the full range of youth issues in the community.
- local government work with schools and community agencies in establishing a collaborative network within their community to develop early response plans. These should ensure that the early recognition of issues for 'at risk' young people can be effectively responded to and addressed. This will require:
local networking groups comprising key agencies being drawn together to develop the plan
- the identification of locally-based 'first to know' agencies; and
- consultation with young people, families and community agencies on the range of responses appropriate to local circumstances.
- the Commonwealth government work with State and Territory governments to extend the coverage of the Reconnect programme so that it can play a role in the development of early response plans in local communities.

The taskforce recommends that:
- the Commonwealth Government work with State, Territory and local governments, in building local partnerships with schools, employers and other community agencies, to ensure that young people at risk of becoming disconnected have access to a range of cultural, sporting, recreational and community service activities.
- schools, community agencies, cultural, recreational and sporting bodies should actively engage with each other to ensure that young people at risk of disconnection have real opportunities for participation in their programmes.

The taskforce recommends that:
- the Commonwealth government work with State, Territory and local governments to ensure that:
  - community-based networks are identified in each local government area to develop localised approaches which identify and support young people not in education or employment;
  - all young people living without adequate support are linked to a local service network with an individual worker or agency assigned a key support responsibility;
  - appropriate, accessible and affordable services for young people with high needs are available in all local communities;
  - local community-based networks should assist young people with high support needs to reconnect with peers, family and community; and
  - local support services commit to delivering an integrated response to young people which offers holistic support across community and government agency jurisdictions.

The taskforce recommends that:
- Commonwealth, State, Territory and local governments work together with community agencies to ensure governments, education and training providers and community agencies collaborate in developing practical local packages of support for young people with high support needs that include:
  - the development of local service networks involving any individuals or agencies identified by young people as being significant personal supports;
  - fostering and resourcing connections with local recreational, cultural, sporting, religious and social groups to encourage the participation of these young people;
the opportunity for disconnected young people to work with youth support staff in developing mutually agreed personal support plans;

the provision of accessible personal and programme resources to achieve the objectives of personal support plans; and

the availability of appropriate training and support for staff working in these programmes.

the Commonwealth extend the coverage of the JPET programme and incorporate the approaches outlined above in its work in local communities.

The taskforce recommends that:

- the Commonwealth work with State and Territory governments to develop partnership outreach education models focused on delivering relevant education and training to young people who are unable to participate in mainstream education. The key elements of this response are that:
  - education and training services are delivered in settings where young people gather and are comfortable;
  - local partnerships involving youth and community agencies, schools, training providers and local employers are essential;
  - education and training approaches are developed and delivered in consultation with young people; and
  - foundation and employability skills such as literacy, numeracy, information technology, effective communication, independent living, and civics are a primary focus.

The taskforce recommends that:

- that the Commonwealth government work with State and Territory governments, the Australian National Training Authority, and the Australian Student Traineeship Foundation to ensure that young people not connected to formal education and training or employment have:
  - opportunities to develop their understanding of work culture;
  - vocational experiences in supportive and well-supervised work settings; and
  - opportunities to participate in structured workplace learning models and obtain employability skills including competence in up-to-date information technology usage.

The taskforce recommends that:

- the Commonwealth government promote effective integration of Job Network services and local youth support strategies including:
  - more opportunities for young people to benefit from Intensive Assistance; and
  - an increased awareness of the needs of young people by Job Network providers and of the impact of breaching penalties.

- the Commonwealth government work with State and Territory governments to develop:
  - arrangements which allow a greater number of young people to access New Apprenticeship preparation programmes with entry
levels appropriate for young people without adequate basic education competencies, as well as structural and industrial arrangements which make part-time and school-based New Apprenticeships attractive to employers;

◆ New Apprenticeship placements in the government, private and community sectors for disadvantaged young people; and

◆ a recognition of the importance of education outcomes for young people in New Apprenticeships Access Programme.

◆ to ensure that young people with high support needs can access New Apprenticeships there must be:

◆ adequate pre-placement preparation and post-placement support of young people;

◆ on-going mentoring;

◆ careful selection, training and support for host employers;

◆ a staged induction process developed in consultation with young people; and

◆ recognition and assessment of prior learning and a creative approach to structured workplace learning.

◆ the Work for the Dole programme be enhanced so that it incorporates:

◆ adequate preparation of participants in their understanding of occupational health and safety requirements;

◆ local programme development processes which consult with young people and community groups in planning and delivering the programme; and

◆ clear articulation into traineeships, employment or accredited training.

*Last updated July 2002*
Stepping Forward - Sharing What Works

Snapshots

The following snapshots provide a "real life" feel to this report as they showcase good practice highlighting effective responses for vulnerable young people.

**Recommendation 16 - Snapshots**

- **Beginning Teacher Time Release Program - Tas**
- **Case management training for school staff - ACT**
- **Getting help before it is too late, Pre-Court Diversion Scheme - NT**
- **Wraparound - SA**
- **Take Charge Project, Bayside/Kingston - Vic**
- **An ACE way to learn, Managed Individual Pathways - Vic**
- **Maydena students talk about drugs at the Cockatoo Cafe - Commonwealth**
- **Groote Eylandt Kids Star - Commonwealth**
- **Promoting Connections - Commonwealth**
- **Opening up new horizons and ways of relating, Armadale - Commonwealth**

**Recommendation 17 - Snapshots**

- **PULSE Youth Health Centre - Tas**
- **ALTed - Alternative Education Program - Tas**
- **Middle Years Programs - Student Action Teams Project - Vic**
- **Connecting Through the Middle Years Project - Vic**
- **"We can Achieve" - Focus on literacy brings success to Elizabeth North Students - Commonwealth**
- **Proof of improved performance - Commonwealth**
- **April's Success with on the Job Learning - Commonwealth**
- **Learning in the Workplace gives Matthew the Edge - Commonwealth**
- **"Roles and Revolt" theatre, a Reconnect Project - Commonwealth**
Focus on literacy brings success to disadvantaged students - Commonwealth

Proof of improved performance - Commonwealth

A Family Conflict or a Fridge : Commonwealth

Involving schools and the whole community, Moonee Valley - Commonwealth

**Recommendation 18 - Snapshots**

'The Bay' - ACT

Springvale Sports Project - Vic

No Dole for me - Tas

Making a difference - NT

Discovering Democracy - Commonwealth

Multi-Cultural Youth Arts Festival and Video - Commonwealth

Addressing family violence, Meekatharra - Commonwealth

Cultural Leadership in an Indigenous Community, Largs Bay - Commonwealth

**Recommendation 19 - Snapshots**

SPINACH, City of Adelaide website for young people - Commonwealth

Careering Ahead, Building a Future - Commonwealth

**Recommendation 20 - Snapshots**

Two way mentoring - Toowoomba Youth Re-connected - Qld

Gold Coast Youth Commitment - Qld

Partnerships for promoting completion rates in Goondiwindi - Qld

Managed Individual Pathways - Vic

Special Programs for Koori Pupils - Vic

**Recommendation 21 - Snapshots**

Port Dalrymple Skill Centre - Tas

'YEP' Youth Education Program - ACT and Commonwealth

Maleny Flexi-School - Qld

The Twilight School - SA
Online Learning Opportunities - Tas

Sole Vision - Qld

**Recommendation 22 - Snapshots**

*Youth Access Program* - "...getting schooling, getting an apprenticeship, getting a future..." - Qld

*Galilee - ACT*

*Local Learning and Employment Training Network - Vic*

*Go For IT - Vic*

**Recommendation 23 - Snapshots**

*Careering Ahead, Building a Future - Commonwealth*

*Work for the Dole Works - Commonwealth*

*Career Goes Graphic - Commonwealth*

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Recommendation 16

The taskforce recommends that:

- every school develop its capacity to recognise, at the earliest possible time, behaviour issues which indicate that young people are at risk of becoming disconnected from their peers, family, school and community.
- all teachers, in-school support staff and the staff of youth and community agencies have opportunities for professional development, through initial and in-service training, that equips them with the skills for early recognition of 'at risk' behaviours in young people and assists them to effectively engage families and other appropriate supports in school and the community.
- peer support networks are established in schools and local communities with appropriate training and support for peer network facilitators.
- local community and government agencies be adequately resourced and skilled to play a role in the early recognition of 'at risk' behaviours and in responding appropriately.

Initiatives addressing Recommendation 16

Below is a compilation of initiatives, listed by State/Territory and Commonwealth, that contribute to building the foundations of support needed to promote the wellbeing, participation and identification of young people in vulnerable circumstances. In addition, you are encouraged to look at the current selection of Snapshots gathered for the State/Territory and Commonwealth initiatives targeting Recommendation 16.

Queensland

- Community Approaches to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student Behaviour Management: Resource booklets for schools
- Family Violence Support Material

Queensland Health

- School-based Youth Health Nurse Program
- Good Practice Guidelines for Working with Young People at Risk of Suicide or Self Harm who present at Queensland Health Facilities: a resource for developing district and service policy and procedures
Youth Drug Summit and the Marginalised Young People's Project
Helping Friends Program
Taking Big Steps - Transition Information Package
Mind Matters
Guidelines for Responding to Victims of Sexual Assault
"Poison" – School Tobacco Resource Package
Health Promoting Schools Initiative

Queensland Health and Education

- Me, Mates and Moderation

Department of Employment and Training

- The Queensland Government's Youth Participation Strategy:
  - Queensland State Youth Advisory Council
  - Local level youth participation activities
  - Youth website: www.generate.qld.gov.au
  - Register of Boards and Committees

Queensland Department of Justice and Attorney-General

- School Mediation
- Justice Mediation

Disability Services Queensland

- Family Support Program
- Friendship Programme

Victoria

Department of Education and Training

- Local Learning and Employment Networks
- Managed Individual Pathways
- The Framework for Student Support Services in Victorian Government Schools
- Opportunities for teacher professional development in initial teacher training
- Working with Children and Adolescents Affected by Torture and Trauma - The Rainbow Program for Refugee Students - Not a Matter of Choice.

Department of Education and Training and VicHealth

- Connecting Through the Middle Years
- School Focused Youth Service

Department of Education and Department of Human Services

- The Department of Education and Training and Department of Human Services Partnering Agreement

Department of Human Services

- Enhancing Specialist Behaviour Services - Adolescent Initiative

Northern Territory

Northern Territory Police
- NT Police Juvenile Pre-Court Diversion Scheme - family and victim offender conference facilitation

**Department of Employment, Education and Training**

- Kids Help Line Peer Skills Program
- Mind Matters
- Aboriginal and Islander Tertiary Aspirations Program (AITAP)
- AITAP Extension

**Department of Health and Community Services**

- Strategies to reduce alcohol, tobacco, cannabis, inhalants and other substance-related harm
- Case work services and small scale initiatives to address crisis accommodation issues
- Out of hours shopping centre based youth outreach workers
- Danger and Risk Assessment tools
- Department of Health and Community Services Protocols

**South Australia**

**Department of Education, Training and Employment**

- Primary school counsellor resource
- Secondary counselling time
- Transition Support Networks
- Drug Strategy
- Career and Transition Management
- Bullying: Out of Bounds

**Department of Human Services**

- Aboriginal Youth Action Committees
- Health Promoting Schools Initiative
- Young People Connecting with Wakefield Regional Health Service
- Community Health Services
- Kumungka Youth Service
- Second Story
- Early Intervention in Crime Prevention
- Interagency Student Behaviour Services

**New South Wales**

**Department of Education and Training**

- Primary Connect
- Peer support networks
- District behaviour teams
- Links to Learning Community Grants Program

**Tasmania**

**Department of Education**

- Supportive School Environment
- Wraparound
Colony 47

- PaKT Project

Office of Post-Compulsory Education and Training and Hobart Education Business Training Partnerships

- Hobart Education Business Training Partnership Website and Research

Western Australia

Department of Education

- Students At Educational Risk Strategy
- Vet In Schools
- School Leaver Program
- Safety Net Making it Happen

Australian Capital Territory

ACT Department of Education and Community Services

- Case management training for school staff

Commonwealth

Department of Education, Science and Training

- National School Drug Education Strategy and COAG Agreed Measures for Drugs in Schools
- Quality Teacher Programme
- National Literacy and Numeracy Plan (NLNP) and the National Goals for Schooling
- Scaffolding Literacy Programme
- Mentoring of Year 8, 9, 10 Indigenous students
- National Indigenous English Literacy and Numeracy Programme (NIELNS)
- Career and Transition (CATS) Pilots

Department of Family and Community Services

- Stronger Families and Communities Strategy
- Reconnect
- Youth Activities Services Programme
- Jobs Placement Employment and Training (JPET)

Department of Family and Community Services, Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, and Department of Education, Science and Training

- Australians Working Together

Department of Family and Community Services and Centrelink

- Centrelink Personal Advisers
- Youth Allowance - Service Profiling Trials
- Youth Allowance - Customer Profiling

Department of Health and Ageing
- National Mental Health Strategy (NMHS) - Kids Helpline
- National Suicide Prevention Strategy (NSPS)
- National Mental Health Strategy (NMHS) and National Suicide Prevention Strategy (NSPS) - MindMatters in Schools
- National Suicide Prevention Strategy - Reach Out!
- National Illicit Drugs Strategy (NIDS)

Attorney-General's Department

- National Crime Prevention Program
- Young People and Domestic Violence

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Sharing What Works - Snapshots

Recommendation 16

Beginning Teacher Time Release Program - Tas

First time teachers and their principals who took part in the Beginning Teacher Time Release professional development program last year have given the innovative scheme their strong endorsement. The Government recognized that teachers face additional demands in their first year of employment after graduation and the program was designed to give them the support and encouragement to develop their skills and confidence as soon as possible.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 16.

Case management training for school staff - ACT

During 2001, case management training was offered to targeted and interested teaching staff from ACT high schools and colleges. The two day intensive course leading to a Certificate 3 in Community Services was designed to provide teachers of young people aged 12-19 with links and skills for directing students at risk to the appropriate services available in the ACT.

Participating schools ensured that at least 10% of their staff were involved. In particular, participants in the course commented on the help it provided for young men at risk.

Schools used their professional development funding and accessed Healthpact grants to fund the training. The course was run by Community Education and Training, a low cost registered training organisation funded by OTAE.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 16.

Getting help before it is too late, Pre-Court Diversion Scheme - NT

As a result of an ongoing dispute - originating in school and extending to other family members - a 16-year-old non-indigenous young person caused $2,000 damage to a motor vehicle. The young person had not previously been involved in any criminal behaviour.

This ongoing dispute, the seriousness of the offence and the lack of a criminal record indicated that a victim-offender conference would be the best way to deal with this matter. Initially the young person and the victim agreed to participate, but the young person did not want her family involved, as she had not informed them of what had occurred. The victim later refused to attend the conference and appeared hostile. Without victim (or representative) participation it was decided that a family conference would be more appropriate.

The young person had left home and was residing with other family members. She had dropped out of school during Year 12 and had limited work experience with any regular employer. Her interaction with peers was becoming aggressive and she was involving herself in increasing bouts of anti-social behaviour. This affected her self-esteem and reduced her capacity for positive social interaction with her family and friends.

In the resulting family conference, the young person stated she was sorry for the stupidity of her actions. A proposal to send a written apology was, unfortunately, rejected by the victim. As an outcome of the conference, the young person agreed to participate in a 25-hour community service program over two weeks. This program involved a variety of tasks including filing, photocopying and other reception duties at a youth facility, which included the responsibility for petty cash. She also assisted with the supervision of children in a vacation care program and attended to cleaning duties. This program was completed with a positive and complimentary report from the program provider. The program provider has offered to mentor the young person if she returns to study and would employ her if there was sufficient funding.
The program provided the young person with career options and other support and assistance and she is now considering returning to study and completing a Certificate III in Early Childcare.

In the 12 months since this offence was committed, this young person has not re-offended or come to Police notice.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 16.

Wraparound - SA

Wraparound is an innovative new project, funded by DHS and DETE bringing together partnerships at every level of planning and implementation. Its core principles are strengths-based planning, thinking outside the square in planning interventions, and respect for the central role of students and their families in planning for their support. The "partners in planning" have needed to reflect the same collaborative and respectful processes in place at the service delivery end of the work.

The Wraparound Project, based on a US model is the first of its kind for SA and involves four schools in the inner southern area of Adelaide, Mitcham Girls' High, Pasadena high, Cabra College and St. Bernadette's Primary. Services are being delivered jointly by Centacare and Baptist Community Services, employing between them two part-time Wraparound Facilitators and a Coordinator.

Already some significant outcomes for students at risk are observable. At one school, a homeless student in her final year of school, after living in several different accommodation arrangements has managed to achieve stability and rebuild a support network around her. Two of her "support persons" attended a Wraparound meeting with her, the school counsellor and the Wraparound Facilitator, and together developed a Wraparound support plan, using all of the resources within their own and the school's network. This student's goal of completing year 12 is well on its way.

Another family, involving a single parent and four children who have participated in Wraparound has noticed substantial differences as a result of Wraparound. This parent was antagonistic towards services as she had lost her confidence in "the system". She felt pushed around, misunderstood, not listened to and she felt her role as a parent had been undermined. However, in the wrapround meeting, after just 3 months work the parent was in the "driving seat" of the process. The parent's level of confidence was apparent when she cleverly advocated for her children's' needs, succeeding in stating when she felt that they were not adequately met. The Wraparound process is also working at building her own resources towards a time when she will be less reliant upon the Service System.

Collaborative planning is not new. It is what all good case managers strive for. What is new in the Wraparound process is the focus placed on the students and their families. They are central to the process and decide who the members of their support team will be. What is also new is the emphasis on building the informal support networks to decrease the reliance upon the formal support system. We do this by ensuring that the team which supports the young person and their family comprises a majority of people who are "non-professional".

Wraparound is a new way of supporting students and families flexibly, creatively and systemically. As schools and agencies identify themselves as Wraparound schools and services, they too are challenged to meet the needs of their students and clients in more flexible and respectful ways.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 16.

Take Charge Project, Bayside/Kingston - Vic

The Take Charge Project, primarily undertaken for the prevention of school exclusion, is a collaborative project to develop individualised group support for 16 identified young people at risk. The main objective was to test a model for intensive support to at risk students and their families, to improve school engagement and prevent school exclusion. It was designed as an action research project to explore positive alternative strategies for dealing with non-attendance - at both an individual student level and at the broader, systemic, school cluster level.

The project, linking in with the Department of Education and Training 'Patterson Project', developed an individualized student group support system, a flexible case management approach alongside curriculum flexibility, and a
A flexible case management approach distinguished Southern Family Life's focus on building in links between families, schools and community agencies. The Patterson Project was responsible for designing and running an 8 week off-campus group, for 1-2 days per week during school time.

The project built on a number of previous projects undertaken by Southern Family Life, which had nominated school exclusion as a critical factor for attention. In particular, it had been stated that many of the young people excluded from school actually liked school and wanted to attend, but did not like how they were treated.

Options: This project provided the schools with a model for working with young people at risk and broadened their understanding of the problems for this group, their own and their parents' hopes and desires and ways of engaging this group using varied and flexible approaches. Other schools have heard of the project and have asked for 'a Take Charge Project in our area'. The Report and Resource Kit are significant products from the project, each having a depth of material and information.

Each student developed their personal life plan; a personal resume documenting their achievements to date; a list of their own concerns and recommended actions; a timetable for their current activities; strategies for dealing with difficult people in their lives; and evaluations of the Take Charge Program. They reported reduced at risk behaviour; a more positive approach to confrontation and conflict; improved approach to learning, and a stronger sense of hope and future planning.

The main changes, as a result of this project, have been as follows:

- The schools involved have changed their approach to working with these young people, ensuring a broader, more encompassing methodology, bringing in parents and ensuring sound levels of support for students and parents.
- The project has encouraged schools to broaden their view of their overall responsibilities with this target group and to ensure that additional resources will encourage these young people to continue in school and complete their education. Note: This project has an extensive report completed, as well as a Resource Kit detailing all protocols and procedures.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 16.

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**An ACE way to learn, Managed Individual Pathways - Vic**

"You get treated like an adult here...and there's not as many rules as at school."

Seventeen year-old Stacey Knight is one of a growing number of young Victorians embracing Adult and Community Education (ACE) as a means to personal and educational attainment.

The student from Bendigo in north-west country Victoria is undertaking accredited studies at Continuing Education Bendigo which is experiencing record numbers of teenager enrolments.

"We had 98 enrolments in 2000, and have 114 at present with new ones being taken weekly," said Jeanette Hartley, the centre's Youth Support Officer.

The surge in interest by young people in ACE is reflected right across Victoria. In 2000, over 8,000 people aged 15-19 years were enrolled in ACE organisations, representing an 81 percent increase since 1996. Significantly, 70 percent of these were regional enrolments.

"Many regional students face significant socio-economic and geographical issues, which impact on their participation in conventional schooling," said Jeanette.

"For these students, I think ACE organisations can offer a more flexible and personal approach to learning."

"For instance, many of our young students live several kilometres away and rely on irregular public transport or other people to get them to and from classes. This often results in late-arrivals, early departures and non-attendance at times - issues that our trainers are able to work through with the students so that they are not disadvantaged."

Continuing Education Bendigo also emphasises self-help and self-belief amongst its young learners.

"In order for our students to succeed in their chosen areas of learning, we strongly advocate firstly building their self esteem to a level where they are comfortable even attempting to achieve," said Jeanette.
The introduction by the State Government of the Managed Individual Pathways (MIPs) initiative has reinforced this approach.

"The MIPs initiative has allowed us to appoint a full-time Student Support Officer to liaise with students, trainers and outside agencies about educational and employment options," said Jeanette.

"The results have been outstanding. We have improved our centre's retention rates to 88 percent and our MIPs Officer has had contact with over 220 young people."

Stacey Knight is one of those young people. An early school leaver with once-limited employment prospects, Stacey is now well on her way to a bright future. In fact, so impressed is she with Continuing Education Bendigo that Stacey is currently completing her fourth accredited ACE course, a Certificate One in Hospitality.

"I love learning at this centre, the trainers are excellent and you can just be yourself," said Stacey.

Her positive attitude is not surprising, according to Jeanette, who says that the centre "handpicks its youth trainers".

"All staff are very accepting of young people and their typical teenage antics," she said.

Stacey agrees: "We can play our own music in class and duck out for a cigarette."

The increasing role of ACE organisations in providing education and employment training for young people looks certain to continue. According to Jeanette, the sector's success lies in its 'niche' position between post compulsory schooling and tertiary education.

Research supports this view, indicating the average profile of young people engaged in ACE programs is early school leavers who require significant support to fully participate in education and training.

"We provide a safe haven that students accept as their own," said Jeanette.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 16.

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**Maydena students talk about drugs at the Cockatoo Cafe - Commonwealth**

Tasmania’s experience with local school-community drug summits to date is characterised by examples of summits greatly enhancing and strengthening that sense of community that exits whenever people come together to problem-solve in a forward-looking way for a common cause.

Maydena, for example, is a small community of 400 residents in the central highlands region of Tasmania with a strong involvement in its local primary school and concern for its secondary students. Thirty-five parents with children ranging in age from young primary to 16 years recently enjoyed afternoon tea at The Cockatoo Café, the township’s main social venue, to hear and talk about "Resiliency - the cornerstone to drug education". Discussion was led by the State Project Officer for the National School Drug Education Project.

The plan had been to involve the children in a concurrent workshop on circus skills or similar, but the difficulties in arranging for agencies to go to Maydena proved too difficult so the children enjoyed pizza and a video as afternoon entertainment. Whilst the event was initiated by the primary school principal, key local community leaders were keen to discuss the next step to organising some more 'hands on' experience to deal with situations arising at home, at school and in the community. A second event is planned in the near future and is likely to be strongly supported by the community. The ability of the project to be a catalyst for enhancing and strengthening the sense of community and tapping into the community's expertise to problem solve is measurably significant.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 16.

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**Groote Eylandt Kids Star - Commonwealth**

**Promoting literacy within the community**
Angurugu Community Education Centre, Alyungala, NT

At Angurugu Community Education Centre, on Groote Eylandt in the Gulf of Carpentaria, the kids can hardly wait for the latest book to hit the classroom...because chances are it will be about them!

'We wanted to set up a home reading program,' said ESL coordinator and initiator of the program Kathryn Mannion, 'Because we knew we needed the support of the parents if children's literacy levels were to improve.'

'The community just loves photos of their kids, so we seized on that major interest and put the children into the books that we made for them to take home.'

The books cover just about every area of the children's lives, including 'special' topics like hunting but mainly 'everyday' subjects like shopping, playing, art, sport and maths.

There has been great interest within the community about the content of the books, which are written by either teachers or students and illustrated with photographs of the children. Ms Mannion regularly asks parents for their feedback.

'Making books is not a new idea,' she says, 'But the exciting thing is getting interesting, age appropriate, culturally appropriate literature into people's homes.'

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 16.

Promoting Connection - Commonwealth

One Reconnect service ran a training program for youth peer counsellors in a school. This gave the young people skills that they could use to support their friends who sought informal advice, as it is widely recognised that young people often go to their friends first when they are experiencing problems.

A project that is targeting the Vietnamese community presents a regular program on ethnic radio that discusses issues of parenting, adolescent behaviour and development, education and similar matters. They have used a number of formats, ranging from information-based presentations to talkback. They have also developed an Internet web site that anyone can access.

The radio programs and the web site provide community education as well as promoting the support services available through the project.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 16.

Opening up new horizons and ways of relating, Armadale - Commonwealth

In Armadale, young people participating in YAS programs are developing the skills and confidence it takes to change their lives. With a commitment to using creative solutions that challenge young people's assumptions the programs are teaching young people different ways of relating to their families and with the wider community. The programs involve other family members and operate in local schools and in the community.

Armadale is located in the south east corridor of Perth, about 30 kilometres from the city centre. It is a socio-economically disadvantaged area with a large Indigenous population, high unemployment, low cost housing and large numbers of young people.

The service works closely with both primary and secondary schools. One of the school-based programs focuses on anger management. Young people who display anger and aggression are referred to the agency and the workers interview both the young person and their parents. They work with the young people in small groups on behaviour management and boundary setting. Because the problems often relate to family issues, the agency also works closely with the parents and siblings. This includes holding outings with the whole family as well as one-to-one work with the parents. The outings which give families the chance to meet other families in similar circumstances are exciting and good fun with activities like abseiling and canoeing.

The service also runs an after school bike repair workshop, which has acted as a stepping stone into other YAS and youth centre activities for the young people who have completed the anger management course.

"The kids are encouraged to attend the bike workshop and learn to do minor repairs. Because many of the kids might not have Dads living at home to work with them in their yards, the connection with male staff and role modelling is really valuable."
Male staff and role modelling is really valuable.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 16.
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 16

Queensland

Community Approaches to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student Behaviour Management: Resource Booklets for Schools

The Indigenous Education Programs developed and distributed a resource booklet, "Community Approaches to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student Behaviour Management", to all schools. This resource document assisted schools in the development of supportive school environments, which were more inclusive of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.


Target group: Indigenous students in Education Queensland schools, particularly those at risk.

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing 2001/2002

Responsible agency: Education Queensland

Contact: Indigenous Education Programs
Ph: (07) 3237 0808

Website: http://education.qld.gov.au/tal/atsi/

Family Violence Support Materials

In relation to family violence in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, Education Queensland provides input into the Next Step and Cape York Justice Study processes.

Education Queensland has produced the SAVVY Schools Kit to provide practical information and strategies for school communities to address issues of domestic and family violence.

Education Queensland has been implementing the Office of Women’s Policy produced video "What if love hurts" for use in state high schools to assist student to explore issues of violence in relationships and promote healthy relationships.

Target group: Students in Education Queensland schools at risk of family violence.

Coverage: Statewide initiative supported through localised activities.

Timeframe: Ongoing 2001/2002

Responsible agency: Education Queensland

Contact: Indigenous Education Programs
Ph: (07) 3237 0808

Website: http://education.qld.gov.au/tal/atsi/
School Based Youth Health Nurse Program
(also addresses rec 17)

The School Based Youth Health Nurse Program is a Queensland Government initiative that commenced in 1998. This primary health care program deploys registered nurses to deliver prevention services in state schools with secondary students, and works within the social model of health.

The nurses provide information, advice and support for students, their families and school communities in relation to issues that impact on the health and wellbeing of young people including early identification and brief interventions, and as relevant, facilitate smooth referral pathways to other services and agencies. These nurses also act as advocates for young people in the broader community by raising awareness of their needs.

The nurses provide individual confidential consultations as well as support for whole of schools activities to promote health. This could include: curriculum development; teaching and learning activities (including teacher in-service and parent sessions); organisation of environments supportive of health and wellbeing; and the development of partnerships and networks internal and external to the schools to support positive health outcomes for young people.

Target group: School students aged 12-18+ years and parents, teachers and other school support staff in State schools

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Queensland Health

Contact: Program Coordinator
School Based Youth Health Nurse Program
Ph (07) 3405 5254

Website: www.health.qld.gov.au/

Good Practice Guidelines for Working with Young People at Risk of Suicide or Self Harm who Present at Queensland Health Facilities: A Resource for developing district and service policy and procedures
(also addresses rec 17)

The aim of the project is to develop good practice guidelines for the management of young people at risk of suicide and self-harm who present at Queensland Health facilities. The project is a state wide undertaking and has involved broad consultation with key stakeholders to explore what already exists in terms of policies/protocols regarding the management of young people at risk of suicide and self-harm in Queensland Health facilities. The project aims to draw from what currently exists as well as learning from national and international research to develop principles for the management of young people at risk. The final document will guide service providers in the key issues for consideration as services and policies are developed or updated.

Target group: Young people

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: 2001/02 – ongoing application

Responsible agency: Queensland Health

Contact: A/State Coordinator
Young People at Risk Program
Queensland Health
Ph (07) 3234 0672
Youth Drug Summit and the Marginalised Young People's Project
(also addresses rec 17 and 18)

The Youth Drug Consultation Project established twenty-six projects in twenty-four sites across the State targeting at risk young people. It operated in partnership with peak youth and indigenous bodies. Each project focused on young people’s alcohol and drug issues and provided a process for young people to express their ideas, concerns and issues about the prevention of harm relating to alcohol and drug use. Through working together as a team the projects also aimed to build protective factors such as connectedness, problem solving, self-efficacy and resiliency through improved access to support services for the young people participating in the projects. This project culminated in the Youth Drug Summit in October 2001.

The Marginalised Young People’s Program has been developed as a follow up to the Youth Drug Summit. At the Summit, at risk and marginalised young people and their support workers were invited to present and discuss their ideas and make recommendations to the Queensland Government about improving youth drug prevention programs and services.

The recommendations from the Summit will be included in Queensland Health's Illicit Drug Action Plan consultations.

A possible next stage is the establishment of local youth drug prevention networks to look at the management and implementation of the Summit recommendations at the local community level.

Target group: Youth
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: 2001 – next steps still under consideration
Responsible agency: Queensland Health
Contact: Senior Prevention Adviser
    Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Services
    Ph (07) 3234 1942
Website: www.health.qld.gov.au/atods

Helping Friends Program

The Helping Friends Program is a peer support program to be delivered to high schools in North Queensland. Helping Friends is based on the foundation that young people frequently seek out their peers for help and support, and that every school has many informal helping networks. These "natural" helpers are identified through an anonymous survey, and they are offered training in specific skills for helping and supporting their peers.

Helping Friends are trained in aspects of helping relationships, communication skills, problem solving and decision-making, referral/resource networks, and self care. They are encouraged to support friends who approach them for assistance and assist them to seek professional help when required.

Target group: Senior secondary school students, school personnel and youth service providers
Coverage: North Queensland
Timeframe: 2001/02
Responsible agency: Queensland Health
Taking Big Steps - Transition Information Package
(also addresses rec 17)

The Taking Big Steps project is designed to assist both service providers and young people alike to manage the transition issues associated with moving from rural and remote areas to urban places for employment and educational purposes.

The package provides an overview of the discrete stages of transition with some suggested approaches for helping young people cope with the changes they are experiencing.

Target group: Youth, community members, schools, youth service providers

Coverage: Cape York Area and the Torres Strait Islands with concerted efforts to focus on Hopevale and Wujal Wujal communities

Timeframe: 2001/02

Responsible agency: Queensland Health

MindMatters
(also addresses rec 17)

MindMatters is a national funded secondary school-based mental health promotion program to support secondary schools in promoting and protecting the mental health of members of school communities. It aims to enhance the development of school environments where young people feel safe, valued, engaged and purposeful.

MindMatters helps schools and their communities including teachers, parents and students to take positive action to create a climate of mental as well as physical health within secondary schools. It includes cross-curricular and whole-of-school resources for schools, a professional development training strategy, a dedicated website, regular newsletters and an evaluation process.

Two dedicated project officers, based in Education Queensland but responsible to an intersectoral steering committee, will be responsible for coordinating the Queensland implementation process including:

- identifying key strategies for the sustainability of Mind Matters in Queensland secondary schools
- developing, implementing and evaluating sustainable implementation and support strategies with secondary schools
- completing the implementation and evaluation of the professional development training strategy
- establishing supportive environments and strong links between schools, other agencies (eg health service providers) and communities

Target group: Members of the secondary school community, including teachers, students, parents.
Guidelines for Responding to Victims of Sexual Assault

Develop and implement guidelines for health services responding to victims of sexual assault and interagency guidelines for key agencies involved in responding to adult victims of sexual assault.

Target group: Women (including indigenous women)

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: 2001 - 2003

Responsible agency: Queensland Health

Contact: Principal Policy Advisor (Women’s Health)
Queensland Health
(07) 3234 0373

Website: http://www.health.qld.gov.au/violence/

"Poison" - School Tobacco Resource Package
(also addresses rec 17)

This project aims to bring together resources into a package that will assist school communities in comprehensively addressing tobacco smoking in accordance with the Health Promoting Schools framework. The package will be introduced to Queensland schools with middle year students in accordance with marketing and implementation plans (including professional development) that will be informed by principles of good practice.

This package will form a major component of the comprehensive 100% IN CONTROL, "Poison" tobacco prevention campaign. "Poison" comprises a cinema commercial, television commercial, community service announcement, supporting resources and pages on the 100% IN CONTROL website (www.100incontrol.com) in addition to the tobacco resource package.

Target group: Members of school communities, including teachers, middle school students, parents, staff and school-based youth health nurses.

Coverage: All Queensland schools with middle school students

Timeframe: Development and implementation during 2002

Responsible agency: Queensland Health in collaboration with Education Queensland, Association of Independent Schools of Queensland, Queensland Catholic Education Commission, University of Queensland, Queensland Council of Parents and Citizens Association and Queensland Cancer Fund.

Contact: Senior Project Officer
Health Promoting Schools Initiatives
(also addresses rec 17 & 20)

Public Health Services and Health Promotion Units across the state have supported the development of a range of Health Promoting Schools initiatives. These support the implementation of new health and physical education syllabuses in the school curriculum, the creation of safe and healthy social and physical environments in schools and the development of partnerships with community services. The Western Gateway Health Promoting Schools Grant Scheme and the Gold Coast Lighthouse Schools Program are good examples of how Queensland Health is supporting schools to work with a range of government and community agencies to address school community identified health and well being issues such as youth risk taking behaviours, mental health and school and community ‘connectedness’.

Target group: School aged children and school communities – both primary and secondary schools

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Queensland Health

Contact: Central Public Health Unit (Brisbane North)
184 St Paul’s Terrace
Fortitude Valley QLD 4006
(07) 3250 8558

Website: www.health.qld.gov.au/

Me, Mates and Moderation
(also addresses rec 17)

Me, Mates and Moderation is a school-based alcohol, tobacco and other drug prevention and education program. Based on the Health Promoting Schools framework and contemporary drug education best practice, the program aims to support responsible use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs by young people. Components of the program include a Teacher In Service Program, a Drug Education Manual for Secondary Schools, a Peer Education Program, "Peers Lead Students Focus Days" and the "Danger Game".

Target group: Schools with secondary students

Coverage: Statewide

Timeframe: Roll-out during 2002

Responsible agency: Queensland Health and Education Queensland

Contact: ATODS Project Co-ordinator
Darling Downs Public Health Unit
Ph (07) 4631 9808

Website: www.health.qld.gov.au/
www.education.qld.gov.au/

The Queensland Government’s Youth Participation Strategy

- Queensland State Youth Advisory Council
The Queensland Government’s Youth Participation Strategy aims to ensure that young people’s voices are heard by government and their communities. This strategy has four major components:

**Queensland State Youth Advisory Council**

The council provides advice to the Minister for Employment, Training and Youth and the Queensland Government generally on issues identified by young people and recommends strategies to address these issues.

Council membership consists of fifteen young people aged 15 to 25 years, five community organisational representatives, one representative from local government and six representatives from government departments.

The Office of Youth Affairs provides administrative and financial support for the operation of the Queensland State Youth Advisory Council.

**Local level youth participation activities**

Local level youth participation activities support young Queenslanders to influence day-to-day decisions of state and local government and the community. By being involved in decision-making, young people have opportunities to develop and increase their skills and knowledge in identifying and responding to the issues that are facing them in their local communities.

The Office of Youth Affairs provides small grants directly to young people to express their views and decide which issues are most important to them and their communities. Small grants are also available to community organisations and local governments.

**Youth website:** [www.GENERATE.qld.gov.au](http://www.GENERATE.qld.gov.au)

The GENERATE website provides information and connections between young people and government.

"Ministers Online", a feature of the website, allows young people to discuss issues and raise questions with Queensland Government Ministers in an online chat environment. A schedule of online chats is available on the site.

Also featured on the site is a discussion board – the GENERATOR – that facilitates discussion between young people across the State. The issues discussed by young people on the GENERATOR are raised in a regular report to Cabinet.

A facility to provide feedback on proposed or amended legislation that affects the lives of young people is also included on the site in the "Legislation Online" section.

**Register of Boards and Committees**

Young people can include their names on a register to indicate their desire to be a part of a Queensland Government board or committee. When developing membership for boards and committees, this register may be referred to for the inclusion and representation of young people.

**Target group:** Young people 12 – 25 yrs

**Coverage:** State wide

**Timeframe:** Commenced in March 2000 and is ongoing

**Responsible agency:** Department of Employment and Training
School Mediation (also addresses rec 17)

The Alternative Dispute Resolution Branch of the Queensland Department of Justice & Attorney-General provides a free, accessible mediation service to communities across Queensland. Trained mediators assist parties to discuss their concerns and to negotiate mutually acceptable agreements. Attendance at mediation is voluntary. Dispute Resolution Centres are based in Brisbane, Hervey Bay, Rockhampton, Mackay, Townsville and Cairns. Mediations can be conducted between members of school communities including student / student, student / staff or parent / staff disputes.

Target group: School aged children / school communities

Coverage: Mediators are located in Brisbane, Toowoomba, Roma, Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast, Hervey Bay, Rockhampton, Mackay, Townsville, Mt Isa, Cairns and surrounding regions (service provision to more remote regional areas may be negotiated).

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Queensland Department of Justice & Attorney-General

Contact: Executive Manager
        Alternative Dispute Resolution Branch
        Ph (07) 3239 6007 or Freecall 1800 017 288

Website: http://www.justice.qld.gov.au

Justice Mediation

The Alternative Dispute Resolution Branch of the Queensland Department of Justice & Attorney-General offers a mediation service to those involved in the criminal justice system through ‘Justice Mediation’. This program allows an opportunity for those affected by crime to meet with those who have committed offences. This process allows young offenders to hear ‘first-hand’ the impact of their offence and to explain to others involved how and why the offence was committed. The process adheres to the principles of Restorative Justice and assists in addressing the harm done by the commission of an offence. Issues such as restitution can also be discussed during this process. The Justice Mediation program is distinct from juvenile victim-offender conferencing. Referral of matters to Justice Mediation can occur at several points within the criminal justice process.

Target group: Young people who have committed offences

Coverage: Presently South-East Queensland

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Queensland Department of Justice & Attorney-General

Contact: Executive Manager
        Alternative Dispute Resolution Branch
        Ph: (07) 3239 6007 or Freecall 1800 017 288

Website: http://www.justice.qld.gov.au

Family Support Program
The Family Support Program aims to support families where the child with the disability is at risk of entering the care of the state or the family is at risk of breakdown.

Families receive assistance from a facilitator for information, planning, linking with formal and informal supports, advocacy and personal supports; and access to discretionary funding for the purchase of a range of supports and services, according to the families needs.

Target Group:

- Children and young people under the age of 18 years with a disability as defined under the Queensland Disability Services Act (1992) living with their birth or adoptive family.
- The family is at risk of breakdown or the child is at risk of entering the care of the Department of Families.

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible Agency: Disability Services Queensland

Contact: Senior Program Development Officer
Ph: (07) 3224 8036

Website: www.disability.qld.gov.au/suppserv/dsq/fsp_apply.cfm

Friendship Program
(also addresses recommendation 18, 22 & 23)

The Friendship Program aims to enhance the opportunity for people with a disability to form friendships with other in the community by:

- Encouraging friendship support through services and community groups;
- An individual support strategy.

Target Group:

- Encouraging Friendship Support strategies are targeted to disability services and community groups.
- Individual support is available to people with a disability aged 18 – 65 years. People who have limited friendship networks and do not have a supportive service to help them to develop and maintain friendships will be give priority in accessing individual support.

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible Agency: Disability Services Queensland

Contact: State Coordinator
Ph: (07) 3224 0630

Website: www.disability.qld.gov.au
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 16

Victoria

Local Learning and Employment Networks

LLENs are about communities including education and training providers, industry, community and government organisations and individuals working together in partnership to build local education, training and employment pathways for young people.

Target group: Young people aged 15-19 years
Coverage: Metropolitan, rural and regional communities across Victoria
Timeframe: 2001-2004
Responsible Agency: Department of Education and Training
Website: www.det.vic.gov.au/det/

Managed Individual Pathways

Young people are provided with individual pathways plans related to their education and job aspirations and follow up interventions for those considered at risk after they leave their provider institution.

Target group: Young people aged 15 - 19 years, especially those at risk of dropping out of formal education or training
Coverage: State wide in government schools, TAFE and ACE sectors
Timeframe: 2001-2003
Responsible Agency: Department of Education and Training
Website: www.det.vic.gov.au/det/

The Framework for Student Support Services in Victorian Government Schools

The Framework incorporates and promotes four levels of activity: Primary Prevention, Early Intervention, Intervention and Restoring Wellbeing - bolstered by principles of Continuity of Care, Partnerships between Schools and Community and Accountability.

Target group: General school population
Coverage: Framework for student support services - all Government schools
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible Agency: Department of Education and Training
Website: www.det.vic.gov.au/det/
Opportunities for teacher professional development in initial teacher training

DET guidelines for evaluating teacher education courses to ensure that initial teacher education courses prepare graduates in the ethical, professional and organisational contexts of teaching.

Target group: Student teachers

Coverage: Student teachers in courses of initial teacher education in Victoria

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible Agency: Department of Education and Training

Website: www.det.vic.gov.au/det/

Working with Children and Adolescents Affected by Torture and Trauma - The Rainbow Program for Refugee Students - Not a Matter of Choice

Training programs, learning and teaching resources to support refugee students in Victorian schools.

Target group: Refugee students, their teachers and parents

Coverage: Schools with refugee students

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible Agency: Department of Education and Training in conjunction with the Victorian Foundation for Survivors of Torture

Website: www.det.vic.gov.au/det/

Connecting Through the Middle Years

This project’s objectives are to trial the Advocacy approach in years 5-9 to:

- improve young people's connection to school;
- increase young people's personal skills relating to self-understanding;
- promote and develop individual learning and pathways plans;
- improve knowledge within the learning organisation of individual students; and
- develop and disseminate support materials and approaches for teachers working with young people.

Target group: Students in Years 5-9 who are at risk of disconnecting from their peers, family, school and community

Coverage: Pilot of 5 primary schools and secondary schools in 2001 with a further 16 schools being added to program in 2002

Timeframe: After pilot completed it is anticipated that most schools will adopt program

Responsible Agency: Learning and Teaching Innovation Division of Department of Education and Training in partnership with VicHealth

Website: www.det.vic.gov.au/det/

School Focused Youth Service

A joint initiative between the Department of Human Services and the Department of Education and Training where communities and schools work together to improve the quality and range of support services available to young people and their families by maximising efficiency and the range of existing services and, where necessary,
providing funds for additional support. Tendered by Department of Human Services to 36 lead agencies across Victoria.

Target group: Young people aged 10 - 18 years at risk of developing behaviours that require support and intervention

Coverage: State wide


Responsible Agency: Department of Human Services and the Department of Education and Training

Website: www.dhs.vic.gov.au

The Department of Education and Training (DET) and Department of Human Services (DHS) Partnering Agreement

This Agreement aims to ensure that the systems responsible for educating children and young people and providing their care and protection work together cooperatively to improve educational outcomes of children and young people in out-of-home care.

Target group: School age clients of Child Protection and Juvenile Justice Branch who are placed in out-of-home care services for their care and protection

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: To be finalised in 2002 - ongoing

Responsible Agency: Department of Human Services, Community Care Division, Child Protection and Juvenile Justice Branch

Website: www.dhs.vic.gov.au

Enhancing Specialist Behaviour Services - Adolescent Initiative

This initiative aims to develop a comprehensive service model of prevention and treatment for adolescents with a disability who have been identified as 'at risk" of displaying offending behaviour or have established patterns of offending behaviour.

Target group: Adolescents with a disability who are at risk of displaying offending behaviours or have established patterns of offending behaviour

Coverage: All nine Disability Services Regional Offices around Victoria have received funds to implement and pilot a range of models

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible Agency: Department of Human Services, Disability Services Division
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 16

Northern Territory

NT Police Juvenile Pre-Court Diversion Scheme - Family and victim offender conference facilitation

School based constables, police officers, a large number of teachers and some students have been trained in victim offender conference facilitation. Family conferences and victim offender conferences have a high priority in the Scheme because they require a higher level of involvement of family and relevant stakeholders in the juvenile's development. Any people who may impact upon the juvenile's long-term behaviour are encouraged to attend. This may include family, relatives, church leaders, Indigenous elders, teachers or sporting coaches. A range of undertakings, as part of a diversion option, may be agreed to.

Target group: Juveniles who commit a minor offence.

Coverage: All urban centres, and communities.

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Northern Territory Police

Website: www.nt.gov.au/pfes/

Kids Help Line Peer Skills Program

Kids Help Line provide training for Peer Skills facilitators to present workshops to secondary students. The facilitators come from a range of community organisations and the Department of Employment, Education and Training, and facilitate workshops as part of their existing jobs. Kids Help Line employs a coordinator to manage the program. The program delivers communication, problem solving and referral skills to a group of young people who are trained to become peer helpers. The program is an effective preventative measure. Research has shown that young people are more likely to discuss problems with their friends than their parents or professionals.

Target group: Secondary aged students experiencing problems at home and at school.

Coverage: Available to all secondary schools in the Northern Territory

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Kids Help Line/Department of Employment, Education and Training

Website: www.education.nt.gov.au

Mind Matters

Mind Matters is a Commonwealth Government mental health promotion resource with a primary focus of suicide prevention, available to schools.
Target group: Secondary school students

Coverage: The program is available to all NT secondary schools that choose to participate

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Employment, Education and Training

Website: [www.education.nt.gov.au](http://www.education.nt.gov.au)

**Aboriginal and Islander Tertiary Aspiration Program (AITAP)**

The Aboriginal and Islander Tertiary Aspiration Program (AITAP) is a school and community based support program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students who hope to complete Year 12 studies and enter higher education courses. It encourages, supports and assists them during their secondary school years to improve their academic attainment and achieve their career aspirations.

Target group: Indigenous students in urban secondary schools

Coverage: Urban secondary schools in the NT

Timeframe: 2001 - 2004

Responsible agency: Department of Employment, Education and Training

Website: [www.education.nt.gov.au](http://www.education.nt.gov.au)

**AITAP Extension**

Extension of The Aboriginal and Islander Tertiary Aspiration Program (AITAP) to include Indigenous secondary students attending remote community schools and Indigenous students in urban secondary schools aged 12 years and upwards.

The program will focus on student progression to tertiary education and employment; transition from primary to secondary schooling; retention of students through to Year 12; personal development for 'at risk' Indigenous students such as building sound study skills.

Target group: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students

Coverage: Urban high schools and remote community schools

Timeframe: 2002 - 2004

Responsible agency: Department of Employment, Education and Training

Website: [www.education.nt.gov.au](http://www.education.nt.gov.au)

**Strategies to reduce alcohol, tobacco, cannabis, inhalants and other substance-related harm.**

Prevention, education and intervention strategies designed to reduce alcohol, tobacco, cannabis, inhalants and other substance-related harm.

Target group: General Population

Coverage: Barkly and Katherine districts, and Darwin urban

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Health and Community Services

Case work services and small scale initiatives to address crisis accommodation issues.

Funding to community organisations - YWCA and Anglicare - for case work services and small scale initiatives to address crisis accommodation issues

Target group: Homeless young people 15 - 19 years of age and those at risk of homelessness

Coverage: Darwin urban

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Health and Community Services


Out of hours shopping centre based youth outreach workers

Funding to local government for out of hours shopping centre based youth outreach workers, to be auspiced by Mission Australia

Target group: Youth at risk

Coverage: Palmerston

Timeframe: Pilot

Responsible agency: Department of Health and Community Services


Danger and Risk Assessment tools

A new model of Child Protection, used during assessment after notification

Target group: Young people up to 18 years of age, at risk

Coverage: NT wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Health and Community Services


Department of Health and Community Services Protocols.

The Department of Health and Community Services staff protocol relates to child abuse notification procedures. The NT Police protocol relates to investigations of maltreatment. The Centrelink protocol relates to the young homeless allowance.

Target group: Young people at risk

Coverage: NT wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Health and Community Services

Initiatives targeting Recommendation 16

South Australia

Primary school counsellor resource

The Primary School Counsellor Resource is allocated to primary and junior primary, area and combined schools with the highest concentration of disadvantage. Principals can use this resource to appoint a Primary School Counsellor to promote student wellbeing through whole-school change by:

- providing support to teachers
- providing a counselling service for students
- identifying and accessing community resources and services
- supporting the development and implementation of the school's behaviour code within the School Discipline Policy.

Category 1-3 schools (of the 7 category new Index of Educational Disadvantage) are targeted. Target group: Students in primary and junior primary sites (5-13 years)

Coverage: State wide.
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible agency: DETE-Student and Professional Services
Website: [www.dete.sa.gov.au](http://www.dete.sa.gov.au)

Secondary counselling time

Secondary counsellors assist students with issues of concern including personal, career, subject and future choice counselling.

Target group: Secondary students

Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible agency: DETE-Student and Professional Services
Website: [www.dete.sa.gov.au](http://www.dete.sa.gov.au)

Transition Support Networks

Regional networks will, through Transition Support Networks develop approaches to career and transition support which will provide assistance to young people and their families. Driven by local partnerships it will allow regional networks to respond collaboratively to the needs of young people and the local community. The project aims to support transition support networks to:

- Set their own locally relevant objectives within the agreed Career and Transition Management Framework
- Design their own advisory and planning structures and local action structures
- Pool local, state and CW bodies to support local initiatives
Support 13-19 year olds, especially young people who are disconnected from schools or are at risk of leaving school early, by strengthening their abilities to make successful transitions to post school options.

Target group: All young people within each EVE region aged 13 -19 years, especially those who are at risk or disconnected

Coverage: Current trial with four regional groups


Responsible agency: DETE - Enterprise and Voc. Ed.

Website: www.dete.sa.gov.au

**Drug Strategy**

To build the capacity of schools to address student drug issues. Has a strong focus on the development of partnerships with other agencies at both the system and site level (eg SAPOL through Drug Action Teams, Drug and Alcohol Services Council, National Council for Education and Training in Addiction Studies).

Schools are encouraged to recognise the importance of schooling as a protective factor for young people and their role in building resilience and in contributing to reducing 'at risk' behaviours.

Target group: School communities

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: DETE-Student and Professional Services

Website: www.dete.sa.gov.au

**Career and Transition Management**

All young people will be provided with services to enable them to make successful transitions to further education, training and adult life.

Support includes:

- General advice and support services
- In depth support for those at risk
- Integrated specialist support for those facing substantial, multiple disadvantages.

The key elements of the Career and Transition Management Framework include:

- Pathway plan
- Access to career information, guidance and advice
- Placement or referral
- Support services eg mentoring, case management
- Follow up monitoring and tracking

Target group: All young people in 20 regional groups aged 13 -19 years.

Coverage: Current trials in four regions; proposal to extend to State wide coverage

Timeframe: Current trials 2001-2002; full implementation 2002-2003

Responsible agency: DETE - Enterprise and Vocational Education

Website: www.dete.sa.gov.au
Bullying: Out of Bounds

Project will support schools to address bullying by highlighting best practice anti-bullying methods in schools and developing resources, information and strategies including a training package/document for parents and educators

Target group: DETE sites
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: 2001-2002

Responsible agency: DETE-Student and Professional Services
Website: www.dete.sa.gov.au

Aboriginal Youth Action Committees

Provides an opportunity for young people to develop their own committee and become involved in the decision making process and planning of activities in their community.

Target group: Aboriginal and Islander young people
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: DHS - Aboriginal Services Division
Website: www.dhs.sa.gov.au

Health Promoting Schools Initiative

With CHDF, providing schools with support through grants and a professional development program. Aims to bring about whole school planning that unites health and education outcomes.

Target group: All school students
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: DHS- Planning Policy and Corporate
Website: www.dhs.sa.gov.au

Young People Connecting with Wakefield Regional Health Service

An inventory of the available skills and resources will be conducted. A training program will be offered to service providers who work with young people to assist in the establishment of a system young people can access with ease.

Target group: Young People 12 -24 years
Coverage: Wakefield region
Timeframe: 2 years

Responsible agency: DHS - Policy Planning and Corporate
Website: www.dhs.sa.gov.au

Community Health Services:
Adelaide Central Community; Inner Southern Community; Noarlunga Health Services; Northern Metro

All of these services run projects for young people who are at risk of being disconnected from their social networks

Target group: All young people with some projects for specific socio-economic groups

Coverage: Metropolitan

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: DHS - Metropolitan Division

Website: www.dhs.sa.gov.au

**Kumungka Youth Service**

- To improve health, safety and welfare of Aboriginal young people whilst in the inner city area
- Increase the number of Aboriginal young people diverted from criminal activity
- Increase Aboriginal young people's access to appropriate support services, including accommodation, health, education and training
- Increase Aboriginal young people's awareness and ability to make appropriate life choices

Target group: 10-25

Coverage: Metropolitan

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: DHS-Metropolitan Division

Website: www.dhs.sa.gov.au

**Second Story**

Youth Health Service (part of Child and Youth Health); Noarlunga, Elizabeth and City

Target group: 12-25

Coverage: Metropolitan

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: DHS - Metropolitan Division

**Early Intervention in Crime Prevention**

Develop, implement and evaluate early intervention or developmental approaches in crime prevention, focusing on key transition points. The risk and protective factors for 'becoming disconnected from family, school and community' are very similar to those factors for developing offending behaviours.

Target group: Yet to be negotiated in local communities

Coverage: Two localities in SA (one rural, one metro); communities with high levels of socio-economic disadvantage.

Timeframe: Three year project 2001-2003; with intent to develop longitudinal evaluation

Responsible agency: AGD
Interagency Student Behaviour Services

Interagency Student Behaviour Services support schools to create safe, productive and successful learning communities through:

- professional development for staff to identify and respond to a range of 'at risk' behaviours
- support to review school discipline policy
- interventions based on needs of individual students
- support in design and implementation of student development plans, specific behaviour change plans etc
- reintegration of students into school after exclusion

Target group: Students (5-17 years)

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: DETE-Student and Professional Services

Website: [www.dhs.sa.gov.au](http://www.dhs.sa.gov.au)
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 16

New South Wales

Primary Connect

The Primary Connect program supports children aged from 5 to 12 years and their families. Participating departments and agencies will work together to assist children to build connections between families, schools and communities.

The purpose of the proposed pilot projects is to find more effective ways to deal with the needs of children who are at risk of disconnecting from school early, of drug use, of offending, of self-harming behaviour or from mental or physical health problems.

Primary Connect will facilitate and co-ordinate family support services and youth development activities. Projects in the Macquarie Fields and Fairfield areas will operate in addition to the Schools as Community Centres programs already established in these districts. The project in the Warrawong area will be delivered by a non-government organisation, Barnardos Australia.

Target group: Children 5-12 years and their families.

Coverage: Communities in South Western Sydney and the Illawarra region.

Timeframe: Three years

Responsible agency: The project is a joint initiative between the NSW Department of Education and Training, Office of Children and Young People, Department of Community Services, Department of Housing, NSW Health and Barnardos Australia.

Website: www.det.nsw.gov.au

Peer support networks

The NSW Department of Education and Training has a well-established student participation and leadership program that focuses on Student Representative Councils (SRCs) in both primary and secondary schools. The current emphasis is on encouraging equity, fairness and participation for all students in schools including students that are at risk of becoming disconnected.

A State wide student leadership network supports government secondary school SRCs. This network is responsible for two state forums (NSW SRC and State SRC Conference Working Party), 40 district SRC forums and a school SRC in each government secondary school.

The Department is encouraging inclusiveness for Aboriginal students by promoting the Student Leadership is for Koori Kids Program (SLIKK), the inclusion of two Aboriginal student leaders on the NSW SRC and the participation of ten Aboriginal student leaders at the annual State SRC Conference.

A resource for primary schools, Student leadership framework for primary schools was launched and disseminated to schools late in 2001.

Target group: Students Kindergarten to Year 12, Aboriginal students, students from
rural and remote, ethnic and/or socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds.

Coverage: All government primary and secondary schools.

Timeframe: 2002 - 2004

Responsible Agency: NSW Department of Education and Training.

**District behaviour teams**

Each government school district has a specialist district behaviour team. These teachers work with students with behaviour difficulties in their home schools. They provide direct support to students, support and advice for teachers and consultancy and training support for schools in the area of behaviour management. In some districts, innovative services have been established using the behaviour resources including off campus alternate behaviour programs.

Target group: Students in government schools requiring additional support in achieving and maintaining appropriate behaviour.

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing.

Responsible agency: NSW Department of Education and Training

Website: [www.det.nsw.gov.au](http://www.det.nsw.gov.au)

**Links to Learning Community Grants Program**

The Links to Learning Community Grants Program provides funding to community organisations to assist young people at risk of leaving school early or who have left school early. The aim of the Program is to assist young people who experience significant difficulties participating in formal learning environments to access, remain in or return to education or training.

The Links to Learning Community Grants Program is characterised by using the expertise and networks of community based organisations to locate and motivate young people at risk, particularly young people who are alienated from mainstream institutions and organisations. This includes the use of streetwork strategies and other activities based in local youth centres. These 'first to know' community based organisations then work with the young person, family and other organisations to provide co-ordinated intensive support.

Target group: Secondary school age students at risk of disengaging and those who have disengaged from schooling.

Coverage: Secondary school aged students in selected areas identified by their high level of need for community based services.


Responsible Agency: NSW Department of Education and Training in collaboration with non-government private providers (community organisations).

Website: [www.det.nsw.gov.au](http://www.det.nsw.gov.au)
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 16

Tasmania

Supportive School Environment

All Education Department Schools in Tasmania have developed supportive school policies. Professional development has been provided over a number of years to all schools and the support services team support schools, students and families.

Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: Current
Responsible Agency: Department of Education
Website: www.education.tas.gov.au

WRAPAROUND

Supporting young people with challenging behaviours by responding to their needs and the needs of the family in a comprehensive way that is positive and creative, involving key people in the life of the young person.

Target Group: K-10 (Young people with multiple suspensions, non attendees)
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: ongoing
Responsible Agencies: Department of Education in collaboration with outside agencies including, Youth Justice, Project Hahn, Anglicare, Salvation Army
Website: www.education.tas.gov.au

PaKT Project (Parents and Kids together)

A pilot program, under the Stronger Families and Communities Initiative, which will provide an early intervention program for families with a child, between 6 -12 years in the greater Glenorchy and Brighton area. The project will provide intensive family support for families from five specific schools and develop a best practice model of service delivery for this target group. Developmental reference group consists of a range of government agencies, Colony 47, Child and Family Services Child Protection and Department of Education

Coverage: Greater Glenorchy Area
Time Frame: 2002-2004
Responsible Agency: Colony 47, Glenorchy and Brighton Council and a range of government agencies
Website: www.colony47.com.au

Hobart Education Business Training Partnership Website and Research
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research paper</th>
<th>&quot;Strategies to support youth at risk&quot; Website designed to provide assistance to support people working with young people at risk of not making a successful transition from school to work.</th>
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<td>Coverage</td>
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<td>Timeframe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Responsible Agency</td>
<td>Office of Post-Compulsory Education and Training and Hobart Education Business Training Partnership</td>
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<tr>
<td>Website</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ovet.tas.gov.au">www.ovet.tas.gov.au</a></td>
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**Initiatives targeting Recommendation 16**

**Western Australia**

**Students at Educational Risk (SAER) Strategy, Making the Difference**

This Strategy encompasses:

- schools having responsibility for identifying, and being accountable for, students at educational risk
- a Health and Well-Being Plan that provides guidelines and resources for the promotion of mental health and well-being
- a Behaviour Management and Discipline Strategy that allocates funds and resources to provide intensive professional development in behaviour management and school support.

Target group: K - Year 12

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible Agency: Department of Education

Website: [www.eddept.wa.edu.au](http://www.eddept.wa.edu.au)

**VET in Schools**

VET in Schools professional development session in support of a Work Readiness Kit.

Target group: Yr 8 - 12

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible Agency: Department of Education

Website: [www.eddept.wa.edu.au](http://www.eddept.wa.edu.au)

**School Leaver Program**

The School Leaver Program aims to identify and assist school leavers who are unable to secure employment, education and/or training placements once they have left school.

Target group: School students in years 10, 11 and 12

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Training

Website: [www.training.wa.gov.au](http://www.training.wa.gov.au)
Safety Net Making it Happen

Safety Net is an early intervention strategy targeting students who display early signs of at risk behaviour (ie truancy or other behaviour resulting in suspension).

Target group: Youth at risk

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: 2002

Responsible agency: Department of Training

Website: [www.training.wa.gov.au](http://www.training.wa.gov.au)
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 16

Australian Capital Territory

Case management training for school staff

During 2001, case management training was offered to targeted and interested teaching staff from ACT high schools and colleges. The two day intensive course leading to a Certificate 3 in Community Services provides teachers with nationally accredited qualifications in case management, crisis intervention, youth advocacy, worker support and networking with community agencies to equip them with skills to better support students at risk. As a result of the course teachers gain links and skills for directing students at risk to the appropriate services available in the ACT.

Participating schools ensured that at least 10% of their staff were involved. In particular, participants in the course commented on the help it provided for young men at risk.

Schools used their professional development funding and accessed Healthpact grants to fund the training. The course was run by Community Education and Training, a low cost registered training organisation funded by the Training and Adult Education branch of the Department.

Target Group: Young people aged 12-19

Coverage: Territory wide

Timeframe: Ongoing as funding allows

Responsible Agency: ACT Department of Education and Community Services

Contact Information: Community Education and Training

Website: [www.decs.act.gov.au](http://www.decs.act.gov.au)
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 16

Commonwealth

National School Drug Education Strategy and COAG Agreed Measures for Drugs in Schools

The National School Drug Education strategy aligns with the National Drug Action Plans developed under the National Drug Strategic Framework 1998-99 to 2002-03. The Strategy strengthens the provision of educational programmes and supportive environments that contribute to the goal of ‘no illicit drugs in schools’. This goal is based on the belief that illicit and other unsanctioned drug use in schools is unacceptable. The focus is on educational outcomes. Assisting students with drug related problems and deterring the presence and use of unsanctioned drugs in schools is also addressed under the Strategy.

Key measures under the Strategy include contracted funding to each State and Territory to enhance school drug education activities, such as:

- professional development for teachers in the area of drug education;
- information and education for parents on drug matters;
- school and community partnerships, including new ways of delivering drug education and information on healthy lifestyles;
- engaging indigenous communities in school drug education; and
- for a range of nationally strategic initiatives undertaking research and promoting best practice.

COAG resolved in 1999 that illicit drugs have no place in our schools and that the response to drug use in schools would be strengthened. The National Framework for Protocols for Managing the Possession, Use and/or Distribution of Illicit and Other Unsanctioned Drugs in Schools (National Framework) has been developed to provide a consistent approach to dealing with drug issues in schools, developed in cooperation with the government, Catholic and independent school sectors, and agreed to and endorsed by all Australian governments.

Key measures currently being progressed under this initiative include Local School-Community Drug Summits (the summits) and the School Drug Education Information (SDEI) project. The summits aim to bring school staff, parents and key community members together to encourage stronger, broader and more integrated community engagement and support in addressing illicit and unsanctioned drug use by young people. The Summits are also the key initiative for the implementation of the National Framework and strengthening prevention and early intervention activities in schools.

The SDEI is developing a suite of multi-media resources that support effective drug education and management in Australian schools. The resources focus on multimedia teaching and learning activities to support classroom-based drug education activities; professional development for teachers implementing effective drug education within and beyond the classroom; and an overarching framework for strengthening a whole school approach for effective drug education strategies and management.

Target group: Students, teachers, parents and school community members
Quality Teacher Programme

The aim of this programme is to update and improve teacher skills and understanding in literacy, numeracy, mathematics, science, information technology and vocational education in schools and to enhance the status of teaching.

The programme supports the implementation of the government's Teachers for the 21st Century initiative.

Target group: Main target groups are those who completed formal training ten or more years ago, casual teachers and teachers who are re-entering the teaching profession. Secondary target groups include teachers of Indigenous students, teachers in rural and remote schools and teachers in disadvantaged urban schools.

Coverage: All state and territory government and non-government education authorities.

Timeframe: 2000-01 to 2004-05

Contact:
Director
Quality Teaching Section
Ph: (02) 6240 9003

Website: http://qualityteaching.dest.gov.au

Responsible Agency: Department of Education, Science and Training

National Literacy and Numeracy Plan (NLNP) and the National Goals for Schooling

The development of appropriate literacy and numeracy standards is a national issue and Governments have acted to achieve real and measurable improvements in both literacy and numeracy skills for all Australian children, which will better prepare them for the future.

In April 1999, State, Territory and Commonwealth Ministers of Education met as the Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs (MCEETYA) in Adelaide. At that meeting, Ministers endorsed a set of National Goals for Schooling in the Twenty-First Century. The goals are known as The Adelaide Declaration on National Goals for Schooling in the Twenty-First Century.

As part of the National Goals for Schooling in the Twenty-First Century, Commonwealth, State and Territory Ministers for Education have agreed on a National Literacy and Numeracy Goal that: ‘students should have attained the skills of numeracy and English literacy, such that every student should be numerate, able to read, write, spell and communicate at an appropriate level’. This national goal represents community expectations for all schools in literacy and numeracy.
To help support the achievement of the National Goal, all Education Ministers have endorsed a National Literacy and Numeracy Plan, which calls for a coordinated approach at the national level to improving literacy and numeracy standards and consists of the following key inter-related elements:

- comprehensive assessment of all students as early as possible, to identify those students at risk of not making adequate progress towards the national literacy and numeracy goals;
- intervening as early as possible to address the needs of students identified as at risk;
- the development of agreed national benchmarks in literacy and numeracy, against which all students' achievement in these years can be assessed and measured;
- progress towards national reporting by systems on student achievement against the benchmarks; and
- professional development for teachers to support the key elements of the National Plan.

All government and non-government education authorities receiving Commonwealth funding must make a commitment to achieving the legislated performance measures and targets which are set out in the States Grants (Primary and Secondary Education Assistance) Act 2000.

These performance measures and targets include the reporting of nationally comparable literacy and numeracy benchmarking data for years 3, 5 and 7.

Target Group: All school age children with a focus on early years.

Geographical Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Performance and Targeted Programmes Branch
Schools Group
DEST
Ph: (02) 6240 7970


**Scaffolding Literacy Programme**

The Scaffolding Literacy Programme is an accelerated reading and writing programme for primary and secondary school students. This programme is coordinated by the University of Canberra and is based on early work carried out in the Alice Springs region. Scaffolding particularly addresses ongoing issues of low teacher expectations, the substitution of busy work for real achievement, behaviour management problems and variety in learning levels and styles. Scaffolding helps students to read materials appropriate to their age without shame or embarrassment through intensive assistance.

This is a highly successful programme with the capacity to achieve dramatic gains in literacy competence. In a number of instances children have moved from kindergarten level to Grade 5/6 level reading performance on benchmarked text in 18 months to 2 years. Three schools supported by the programme won National Literacy Awards in 2000.

Coverage: Being delivered in 22 locations across Australia, primarily in the Kimberley/Pilbara area of Western Australia.

Timeframe: 2000 - 2002
**Mentoring of Year 8, 9 and 10 Indigenous students**

Formation of one-on-one relationships between a mentor and student with the view to fostering a caring and supportive relationship; encouraging students to achieve their fullest potential; and helping students develop their own individual vision for the future.

**Target Group:** Indigenous students in Years 8, 9 and 10

**Coverage:** National

**Timeframe:** January 2000 to June 2003

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**National Indigenous English Literacy and Numeracy Programme (NIELNS)**

(Also addresses Recommendations 17, 20, 21 and 22)

The objective of the National Indigenous English Literacy and Numeracy Strategy is to achieve English literacy and numeracy for Indigenous students at levels comparable to those achieved by other young Australians.

The strategy acknowledges that extra effort is required by education providers for Indigenous students to be successful and aims to address six key elements:

- Achieving Attendance
- Overcoming Hearing, Health and Nutrition Problems
- Preschooling Experiences
- Getting Good Teachers
- Using the Best Teaching Methods
- Measuring Success, Achieving Accountability

Under the NIELNS, DEST funds a range of projects that provide personalised support, community learning environments, and vocational learning experiences to young Indigenous people who are at risk of disconnection or who have become disconnected. Some initiatives focus specifically on the issue of literacy and/or numeracy whilst others seek to improve educational outcomes via other means such as increasing attendance rates, involving parents and the community, addressing health issues and mentoring.

**Target Group:** Indigenous Young People

**Coverage:** National

**Timeframe:** 2000 to 2004
Career and Transition (CATS) Pilots

During the 2002 school year, twenty three Career and Transition Pilot (CATS) projects across Australia are exploring methodologies for and testing ways to enhance career and transition support to young people aged 13-19 years. The pilot projects will offer improved career and transition information, support, guidance and advice and will include the development of individual learning pathways plans focusing on young peoples transitions through school and from school to further education, training and work, prepared with the support of dedicated Transition Advisors. Local partnerships between schools, the community, government and industry as well as links with families are an integral part of these projects.

The CAT projects have been developed as part of the Government's response to the Youth Pathways Action Plan Taskforce's Report Footprints to the Future, in particular to recommendations 4, 5 and 6.

The Career and Transition (CAT) Pilots contain four major components:

- Community Partnership Committees;
- dedicated Career and Transition Advisers;
- Learning Pathways Plans for young people aged 13 - 19; and
- testing ways of tracking the transitions of young people for 18 months post school

Target Group: Young people aged 13-19

Geographical Coverage: 23 projects will operate across a variety if setting in metropolitan, regional and remote areas of Australia.

Timeframe: 12 months from April 2002

Contact details:
Director
Transition Partnerships Section
Enterprise and Career Education Branch
Department of Education, Science and Training

Responsible Agency: Department of Education, Science and Training

Website: www.dest.gov.au

Stronger Families and Communities Strategy

The Stronger Families and Communities Strategy is a program intended to strengthen local communities and families through a range of linked initiatives. Youth are targeted under the Strategy, particularly through the following measures:

- the Potential Leaders in Local Communities initiative aims to develop skills, opportunities and support for potential community leaders, including helping young people to become leaders amongst their peers and future community leaders;
- the Local Solutions to Local Problems initiative helps communities to develop their own responses to local issues and in the process increase their capacity to deal with similar or other issues in the future. This could include engaging young people in the community by providing access to facilities or resources, helping young people to access support and information or helping young people in educational environments;
- young mothers can also benefit from the Stronger Families Fund which encourages coordination and integration of local services to help communities to find new ways to strengthen families, focusing on early childhood development and effective parenting; and
the Early Intervention Parenting and Family Relationship Support initiative can also benefit young parents through parenting skills education and playgroups, as well as help young people experiencing family conflict through family counselling.

53 projects directly benefit young people. These projects have been funded under the Potential Leaders initiative (19 projects), the Local Solutions initiative (16 projects) and Early Intervention Parenting and Family Relationship Support (11 projects). The 53 projects also includes 6 projects of national significance.

Target Group: Families and communities generally; youth are targeted as described above.

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Community Branch, FaCS
Phone: 02 6212 9159

Website: www.facs.gov.au/sfcs/index.htm

Responsible Agency: Family and Community Services

'Reconnect' (formerly Youth Homelessness Early Intervention program)

Reconnect provides early intervention support to young people aged 12 to 18 who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and their families. The objectives of Reconnect is to improve the level of engagement of homeless young people, or those at risk of homelessness, with family, work, education, training and the community. As at March 2002, 93 Reconnect services are operating nationally and a further 7 are being established through community development processes. This will bring the total number of Reconnect services to 100.

Six Reconnect services specifically focus on Indigenous young people, their families and communities. The Department is working with an additional seven Indigenous communities in remote, rural and metropolitan areas to establish specific services to address the needs of local young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their families.

Target Group: Young people aged 12 to 18 who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and their families

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Youth Bureau, Programs Branch, FaCS
Ph: 02 62129437
facs.internet@facs.gov.au

Website: www.facs.gov.au

Responsible Agency: Family and Community Services

Youth Activities Services Programme
(also addresses Recommendation 17)

The Youth Activities Services Program consists of Youth Activities Services (YAS) and YAS Family Liaison Workers (FLW.)
The YAS provide activities, generally after school, to adolescents living in disadvantaged areas. The YAS program supports young people and their families through offering positive peer support and creative and challenging alternatives to activities that place young people at risk. The program helps to prevent young people from developing and continuing with patterns of behaviour that place them at risk of disconnecting from their families and community and which may have long term effects on their family relationships, schooling and labour force participation.

The FLW program supports young people and their families by helping them deal with issues affecting their well being as a family through offering positive practical support and guidance. The FLW fills an identified service gap between YAS and other intensive support and counselling services currently available.

Target Group: Young people aged 11-16 years living in disadvantaged areas, who still live at home and attend school. 19 YAS/FLW services identify Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people as their target group.

Coverage: There are 90 YAS and 83 FLWs across Australia.

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details: Assistant Secretary Youth Bureau, Programs Branch, FaCS Ph: 02 62129437

Responsible Agency: Family and Community Services

Job Placement, Employment and Training Programme (JPET) (also addresses Recommendations 17, 19 and 23)

JPET provides a holistic approach to assisting young people overcome problems preventing them from maintaining stable accommodation and entering into full-time education, training or employment.

JPET offers ongoing support and referral services to young people to help them overcome a range of problems, including housing, substance abuse, family difficulties, sexual or other abuse, lack of self esteem, income support, and other barriers to employment, education or training. The most common strategies implemented across all target groups are personal support, job search assistance and training assistance. Income advocacy and financial assistance were also common strategies. 136 agencies deliver services throughout Australia.

Target Group: JPET assists students and unemployed young people between 15-21 years who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless (with priority to be given to those aged 15-19 and to homeless young people). Assistance is also provided to young people who are/or have been wards of the State, are refugees or have been in the juvenile justice system.

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Youth Bureau, Programs Branch, FaCS
Ph: 02 62129437
facs.internet@facs.gov.au
Website: http://jpet.facs.gov.au/

Responsible Agency: Family and Community Services
Australians Working Together

Australians Working Together - Helping people to move forward is a major package of initiatives offering significant support and services to help people to help themselves. Young job seekers will benefit from many Australians Working Together (AWT) initiatives announced in the 2001-02 Budget. Young people will also benefit from the improvements to employment services under AWT.

AWT builds on the Government's employment assistance and mutual obligation policies that have attracted widespread support amongst participants and the broader community.

The new system is providing improved personalised assessment and service, more opportunities for training and work experience, better incentives, and reasonable requirements for people to find work, increase their earnings or contribute to their communities.

Centrelink will be the gateway to the new system. Centrelink Personal Advisers will provide a high level of service to people needing additional help to overcome personal or other barriers.

Under AWT young people will have access to more places in Literacy and Numeracy Training, Job Search Training, and Work for the Dole and can earn Training Credits by participating in Work for the Dole and Community Work. Vulnerable and at risk young people will benefit from the better assessment processes in Intensive Assistance and the linkages between Intensive Assistance and other programmes. Young people will also benefit from other initiatives such as the Working Credit (which encourages people on income support to take up full-time, substantial part-time or casual work) and the new Personal Support Programme (designed to help people with problems such as homelessness, and drug and alcohol addiction) that replaces the Community Support Programme.

Coverage: National

Timeframe: July 2001 - June 2005

Contact details: together@dewrsb.gov.au

Initiative Website address: http://www.together.gov.au/

Responsible Agency: Shared policy responsibility between Family and Community Services, Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, and Department of Education, Science and Training

Centrelink Personal Advisers

Under Australians Working Together a range of initiatives will be available to those young jobseekers that are indigenous or have special needs. AWT draws on Centrelink's capability to provide a range of assessment tools and its brokering role to assist individuals to improve their economic and social participation in the community. It is recognised that a vast majority of programs are delivered by non-government organisations. A major change with the implementation of AWT is the introduction of 850 new Centrelink Personal Advisers, in order to ensure people's needs are assessed better, so that they get the right assistance. Centrelink Personal Advisers will provide extra help to assist some young people with special needs to get a job or participate as possible in their community. This will involve the formation of partnerships with non-government groups, outside experts and its customers to provide the right help.

Target Group: Various

Coverage: National
Youth Allowance - Service Profiling Trials

From April 2002, Centrelink will pilot the application of customer profiling to the circumstances of 350 Youth Allowance recipients in selected sites in Western Sydney, South-East Queensland, Melbourne and Adelaide. The 350 customers will be identified for assistance in the areas of correctness of payment, Activity Test compliance, appropriate interventions and support for young people at risk and improving the social and economic participation of young people. Young people identified for additional assistance will be both job seekers and students.

The purpose of the trials is to establish the likelihood of the service profiling methodology to achieve effective program outcomes and determine the effectiveness of an approach to customer management based on service profiling.

The interventions applied will be appropriate to the needs of the young people and will include the provision of information, advice and where appropriate, support from social workers.

Target Group: Jobseekers aged 15 to 20 and full time students aged 15 to 24

Coverage: Western Sydney, South-East Queensland, Melbourne, and Adelaide

Timeframe: April-May 2002

Youth Allowance - Customer Profiling

Service Profiling is a tool which will Centrelink will use to help to identify and increase contact with customers at most risk of receiving incorrect payment, while also tailoring services to individuals, and to improve opportunities for those most in need of assistance. Minister Vanstone announced service profiling for payment correctness on 15 October 2001.

The aims for service profiling are to deliver a better set of program outcomes for the same cost, to improve customer service, and to realise program savings.

Target Group: Youth Allowance recipients

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Phased implementation commencing 1 July 2002

Contact details:
National Mental Health Strategy (NMHS) - Kids Helpline
(also addresses Recommendation 17)

Kids Help Line provides a national telephone counselling service for young people aged 5 to 18 years. The non-government, free, anonymous and confidential service aims to:

a. provide a professional counselling service accessible to all Australian children and young people;
b. empower the caller by assisting them to form opinions for themselves;
c. help children identify and understand the consequences of a particular course of action;
d. facilitate more productive relationships with parents, teachers and care givers;
e. fill in the gaps in existing services;
f. provide information on support services in the caller's local area;
g. advocate on behalf of children where their interests are ignored or unrepresented.

Target Group: All children and young people aged 5 to 18 years.

Coverage: National

Timeframe:

Contact Details:
Director
Co-ordination & Management Unit
Mental Health and Special Programs Branch
Department of Health and Ageing
Ph: (02) 6289 1555

Website: www.kidshelp.com.au/

Responsible Agency: Department of Health and Ageing

National Suicide Prevention Strategy (NSPS)

The funding of the NSPS reflects the federal government commitment to build on the former National Youth Suicide Prevention Strategy. The NSPS will maintain a focus on young people while expanding suicide prevention activity across the lifespan.

A national policy document titled Living Is For Everyone (LIFE): A framework for prevention of suicide and self-harm in Australia has been developed with considerable community input. It aims to foster strategic partnerships and to position suicide prevention effort across all sectors. The framework was released in October 2000 and widely distributed.

The Minister for Health and Aged Care has established the National Advisory Council on Suicide Prevention.

Target Group: All Australians

Coverage: National
Timeframe: 1999-00 to 2004-05

Contact Details:
Director Co-ordination & Management Unit
Mental Health and Special Programs Branch
Department of Health and Ageing
Ph: (02) 6289 1555

Website: www.mentalhealth.gov.au

Responsible Agency: Department of Health and Ageing

National Mental Health Strategy (NMHS) and National Suicide Prevention Strategy - MindMatters: National Mental Health Promotion Schools Program
(also addresses Recommendation 17)

MindMatters is a mental health promotion program for all Australian secondary schools (2000-2003). The program recognises that the mental and emotional health and well-being of young people is fundamental to their academic, vocational and social competence. The program was developed to enhance school environments where young people feel safe, valued, engaged and purposeful. It provides a range of teaching resources, supported by professional development activities and a website. The program also helps schools develop strong links with counselling and support services in the community. Progress on the project to date includes:

- all secondary schools in each State and Territory of Australia have received a brochure offering the program.
- over 50% of secondary schools around the nation have requested their free copy of the Resources Kit professional development activities have been conducted in capital cities and regional centres in every State and Territory, with high attendance from teachers and non-school organisations
- significant support for the Indigenous component of the program has been given by health and education Indigenous organisations, including a whole school resource addressing cultural diversity
- the website cms.curriculum.edu.au/mindmatters has an average of 300 hits per month.

StudentMatters will complement MindMatters and aims to improve referral and service provision for high-risk students in MindMatters schools. This initiative aims to develop a strategy that will help interested MindMatters schools to work more effectively with at risk students.

ParentMatters aims to ensure that parents in MindMatters schools are able to effectively participate in parenting and supporting their adolescent children, including when treatment for mental health problems is required. Work on this program is about to commence.

CommunityMatters is a key component of the Indigenous strategy of MindMatters, CommunityMatters is a whole school resource that addresses cultural diversity, addressing issues such as community, culture, identity and wellbeing.

Target Group: Young people and young adults and their parents.

Coverage: National

Timeframe: 2000-2003

Contact Details:
Director Co-ordination & Management Unit
Mental Health and Special Programs Branch
Department of Health and Ageing
Ph: (02) 6289 1555
National Suicide Prevention Strategy - Reach Out!
(also addresses Recommendation 17)

Reach Out! (http://www.reachout.asn.au/home.jsp) is an initiative of the Inspire Foundation, and is a web-based service to assist young people going through difficult times. The purpose of the Reach Out! Website is to assist young people, their families, friends and the general community in contact with young people going through difficult times, to gain information, self-referral and general support through a youth-oriented medium.

Reach Out! averages in excess of 30,000 visitors each month (unique user sessions), with each person spending an average of 12-15 minutes in Reach Out! each visit.

Reachout! also run RORRT (Reachout! Rural and Remote Tour) involving touring rural Australia and encouraging young people to express themselves and to constructively discuss mental health and suicide prevention issues utilizing the Reach Out! Internet medium.

Target Group: Young people, young adults, their family and friends

Coverage: National


Contact Details:
Director
Co-ordination & Management Unit
Mental Health and Special Programs Branch
Department of Health and Ageing
Ph: (02) 6289 1555

Website: http://www.reachout.asn.au/home.jsp

Responsible Agency: Department of Health and Ageing

National Illicit Drugs Strategy (NIDS)
(also addresses Recommendations 17 and 20)

The purpose of NIDS is to assist in preventing and reducing the use of illicit substances through a balanced package of measures aimed at reducing the supply of, and demand for, illicit drugs. Key demand reduction initiatives under NIDS include:

1. National Illicit Drugs Campaign (NIDC)

Purpose: As a component of NIDS, NIDC is a comprehensive community education and information strategy, divided into two parts: 1) an information strategy to meet needs of parents, carers and the broader community, and 2) targeted strategies relating to reach youth. The first phase aims to enhance parents’ and carers' skills in communicating with children about illicit drugs in order to deter the initiation or continuation of drug use by children.

Target Group: Parents, carers, the community (Part 1) and young people in general and those at risk of drug use (Part 2).

Coverage: National
2. Community Partnerships Initiative

Purpose: To encourage quality practice in community action to prevent illicit drug use and to build on existing activity occurring across Australia. It is expected that the outcomes will contribute to the prevention and reduction of illicit substance use by young people, by mobilising communities and fostering relationships between government and the broader community. The future emphasis of the program will be placed on community-driven prevention initiatives with the potential to generate improved individual, family and community resilience and well being, including reduced drug related risk and harm.

Target Group: The focus is young people but includes action involving other individuals and groups in the community who interact with young people in their social environments. Future focus will be on illicit drug specific prevention initiatives towards community activities directed at the early childhood and adolescent years that build resilience.

Coverage: National

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Drug Strategy and Health Promotion Branch
Department of Health and Ageing
nationaldrugstrategy@health.gov.au

Website: www.nationaldrugstrategy.gov.au

3. Schools Drug Education Strategy Refer to separate entry

4. NGO Treatment Grants Program

Funding has been provided under the Non-Government Organisation Treatment Grants Program to build capacity of NGO services and to improve treatment outcomes by a) expanding and upgrading current NGO treatment services, and b) establishing and operating new treatment services for users of illicit drugs, with an emphasis on filling gaps (geographic, target group) in the coverage of existing treatment services.

Target Group: Users of illicit drugs

Coverage: national

Timeframe: ongoing

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Drug Strategy and Health Promotion Branch
Department of Health and Ageing
nationaldrugstrategy@health.gov.au

Website: www.nationaldrugstrategy.gov.au
National Crime Prevention Program

The National Crime Prevention Program’s objectives are to identify and promote innovative ways of reducing and preventing crime and the fear of crime. The program includes both research and practical initiatives including national pilot projects, local prevention activities and communication and training initiatives. Priority issues include property crime; domestic and family violence and violence in Indigenous communities. A significant proportion of National Crime Prevention Program (NCP) funding is for early intervention initiatives with young people and their families under the Youth Crime and Families Strategy.

National projects focusing on young people include those addressing public space, public events, domestic violence, truancy, bullying, early intervention and homeless youth. Research reports are already available on the domestic violence, early intervention, homelessness and use of public space.

To date key youth related initiatives under the programme include:

- **Research Reports**
    The report highlights the importance of targeting multiple risk and protective factors at critical transition points in a young person's developmental life cycle.
  - "Living Rough - Preventing Crime and Victimisation Among Homeless Young People" (Jaffe R, Szirom T, 1998)
    This project classifies examples of current service delivery to homeless and disadvantaged young people, identifies and develops measures for evaluating the successful practices and strategies which address both the victimisation and the offending rates of young homeless people, and depicts the outcomes resulting from these strategies.
  - "Hanging Out - Negotiating Young People's Use of Public Space" (White R, University of Melbourne, 1998)
    This report is based on research completed by Associate Professor Rob White of the University of Melbourne. The research involved a mapping of existing initiatives and approaches, and the identification of key themes and good practice.
  - The Western Australian Aboriginal Child Health Survey
    The NCP has committed funding to this joint project with other Commonwealth departments and State agencies in Western Australia. It will be undertaken by the TVW Telethon Institute for Child Health Research. The Survey is designed to provide the State and Commonwealth governments, the ATSIC Regional Councils and Aboriginal Controlled Health Organisations with planning data similar in quality and relevance to the information that is currently available in relation to non-Indigenous children.
  - **Early Intervention - Youth Crime and Families Strategy**
    Building on the Pathways research, the Government committed funding to the Youth Crime and Families Strategy for work on early intervention and the prevention of youth crime. Early intervention is a priority for the NCP. Accordingly, the Program undertakes work aimed at early intervention in a number of areas related to young people who are at risk of becoming involved in crime or anti-social behaviour, and their families.
    - Two early intervention demonstration projects have been funded, one in South Australia and one in the Redfern Waterloo area of Sydney, NSW.
    - **Investing in our Youth - Bunbury, WA**
      The NCP has committed funding to the Bunbury Investing in our Youth project
- an early intervention initiative aimed at ensuring the resources of the community are used strategically and effectively in creating an environment that supports the healthy development of children and young people.

- Bullying
  Bullying impacts on students' physical and psychological health, educational attainment and social development. Bullying behaviour can also indicate subsequent anti-social and criminal behaviour. The NCP is funding research and development into the most effective ways to prevent and stop bullying in pre-school and in the early primary years. This is a unique approach in focusing on these pre school and early primary school students. Once the most effective anti-bullying strategies are identified, the project will develop information resources to help teachers, parents and carers prevent and address bullying in schools.

- 'Croc' Festivals
  The Commonwealth is committed to working with grass roots Indigenous organisations to achieve innovative solutions to problems experienced by, and promote effective communication among, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. The Croc Eisteddfod Festivals have been developed in concert with the Rock Eisteddfod challenge since 1998. Both events focus on having fun in a drug and alcohol free environment. However, the Croc Festivals place greater emphasis on community partnerships.

- National Review of Juvenile Diversion
  Through the NCP, the Commonwealth Government has commissioned a national profile of diversion programs.

- Mentoring research
  The NCP is commissioning a national profile and a literature review on mentoring programs for young offenders. The profiling will include an analysis of the factors that contribute to the successful operation of mentoring programs and it is expected that the literature review will detail evaluations of established programs both nationally and internationally.

- Prisoners and their Families
  Children of prisoners across Australia now have the opportunity to develop a more meaningful relationship with their imprisoned parent as a result of a national pilot funded under the NCP. The national program, managed by Good Beginnings Australia Ltd, assists children and families of prisoners by, for instance, conducting early childhood development training programs for parents in prison and providing transport for children who want to visit their parents in prison.

- Truancy and Juvenile Crime
  There is an established relationship between juvenile crime and non-attendance at school. The Commonwealth and Tasmanian Governments have joined forces to address school truancy and its links to juvenile offending and victimisation. Each has provided funding towards an important initiative in Tasmania, which will tackle the issue of anti-social behaviour and juvenile crime by focusing on school attendance. The project uses a multi-faceted approach involving community, parents, schools and service providers.

- Indigenous Youth Mentoring Scheme
  The NCP and the South Australian Government have made a joint commitment to an Indigenous Youth Mentoring Scheme. This scheme is designed to divert at-risk youths away from criminal behaviour by providing intensive mentoring schemes to Indigenous young people who are at early stages of their involvement in the criminal justice system. The Indigenous Youth Mentoring Scheme is part of the Commonwealth Government's commitment to capacity building in South Australia through the NCP.

- Young People and Burglary Prevention
  In March 2001 the ACT Government received NCP funding for three projects aimed at reducing the incidence and severity of residential burglary. Along with the Adult Offender project and the Victim Response project, the Juvenile Offender project will implement a mentoring program to reduce recidivism with forty young male offenders assessed as high-risk burglary offenders.

- A trial of two brief interventions for cannabis problems among young offenders
Based on Australian and overseas research results, the project will develop and trial two brief innovative psychological interventions for adolescent cannabis users. This will increase the range of criminal justice options for a large section of the juvenile offender population, one that fills a serious gap in existing services.

- Young People and Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction
  In September 2001, the Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator the Hon Chris Ellison, approved funding for this project. It will be undertaken in conjunction with the National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council (NMVTRC) and state government and local industry bodies to combat motor vehicle theft by developing a good practice model to reduce motor vehicle theft that could be implemented and tested nationally. Initiatives will be funded in Tasmania, Queensland and Western Australia.

Target Groups: The target groups vary from project to project.

Coverage: National

Timeframe: 2000 - 2003

Responsible Agency: Attorney-General's Department

Website: www.law.gov.au

**Young People and Domestic Violence**

- Young People and Domestic Violence - a report of National Research on young people's attitudes and experiences of domestic violence (2001). This was a joint project of the National Crime Prevention Program, the Department of Education Training and Youth Affairs and Partnerships Against Domestic Violence.

The research project surveyed young people's experience of and attitude to wards domestic violence. It is the largest piece of research of its kind ever conducted in Australia. The chief research aim was to allow quantitative and qualitative data to be used in developing a comprehensive picture of young people's experiences. This has enabled the Government to tailor programs to target young Australians most at risk of physical harm due to domestic violence and from cyclical effects of a history of exposure to domestic violence.

The report highlights the gender disparity commonly recognised in domestic violence and reflected in criminal statistics with girls experiencing higher levels of being frightened by intimate aggression and sexual assault. The research reinforces the need for policies that recognise the differences that exist in the community and the different levels and forms of violence that also takes account of gender disparity.

- Violence in Indigenous Communities (Memmot P, Stacy R, Chambers C, Keys C in association with the Aboriginal Environments Research Centre, University of Queensland, 2001) is a report funded by the National Crime Prevention Program. It has provided valuable research based evidence and information that underpins the Government's approach to addressing violence in Indigenous communities in Australia including the Partnerships Against Domestic Violence initiative, the National Indigenous Family Violence Strategy which is being implemented under the auspices of the Ministerial Council on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs.

- The Northam Pilot Project - Working with Adolescents to Prevent Domestic Violence
  In 1998 the NCP provided funding to the Avon Valley Help Centre to undertake a pilot project called Working with Adolescents to Prevent Domestic Violence in the West Australian town of Northam. The project was located in Northam High School. It began in October 1998 and was completed in October 1999. The project stemmed from the recommendations of a NCP report, *Working with*...
The Derby Pilot Project: Working with Adolescents to Prevent Domestic Violence

The NCP is funding the Shire of Derby/West Kimberley in Western Australia to undertake a pilot project, Working with Adolescents to Prevent Domestic Violence. The project stemmed from the recommendations of a NCP report, "Working with Adolescents to Prevent Domestic Violence - Indigenous Rural Model"

The 12-month pilot project began in March 2001. In September 2001 the Government agreed to further funding for an 18 month extension of the project.

Target Group: Policy makers and practitioners. Young indigenous people in rural/remote community

Coverage: Report available nationally.

Timeframe: 2001 - June 2003

Responsible Agency: Attorney-General's Department

Website: www.law.gov.au
Stepping Forward - Sharing What Works

Recommendation 17

The taskforce recommends that:

- every school has established policies, processes, protocols and practices that promote early recognition and intervention, including access to an identified network of local agencies, with the capacity to address the full range of youth issues in the community.
- local government work with schools and community agencies in establishing a collaborative network within their community to develop early response plans. These should ensure that the early recognition of issues for 'at risk' young people can be effectively responded to and addressed. This will require:
  - local networking groups comprising key agencies being drawn together to develop the plan
  - the identification of locally-based 'first to know' agencies; and
  - consultation with young people, families and community agencies on the range of responses appropriate to local circumstances.
- the Commonwealth government work with State and Territory governments to extend the coverage of the Reconnect programme so that it can play a role in the development of early response plans in local communities.

Initiatives addressing Recommendation 17

Below is a compilation of initiatives, listed by State/Territory and Commonwealth, that contribute to building the foundations of support needed to promote the wellbeing, participation and identification of young people in vulnerable circumstances. In addition, you are encouraged to look at the current selection of Snapshots gathered for the State/Territory and Commonwealth initiatives targeting Recommendation 17.

Queensland

Department of Tourism, Racing and Fair Trading

- Post School Survival Tips Publication

Queensland Health

- School-based Youth Health Nurse Program
- Youth Drug Summit and the Marginalised Young People’s Project
- Taking Big Steps – Transition Information Package
- “Poison” School Tobacco Resource Package
- Health Promoting Schools Initiative
- Mind Matters
- Good Practice Guidelines for Working with Young People at Risk of Suicide or Self Harm who present at Queensland Health Facilities: a resource for developing district and service policy and procedures

Queensland Health and Education

- Me, Mates and Moderation

Department of Families

- Youth Support Coordinators
- Regional Youth Crime Prevention Projects
- Youth Crime Prevention Services

Queensland Department of Justice and Attorney-General

- School Mediation

Disability Services Queensland

- Family Support Program

Victoria

Department of Education and Training in conjunction with Victorian Foundation for Survivors of Torture

- The Rainbow Program for Refugee Students

Department of Education and Training

- Managed Individual Pathways Initiative
- Pathways Project
- Local Learning and Employment Networks
- Working with Children and Adolescents Affected by Torture and Trauma - The Rainbow Program for Refugee Students - Not a Matter of Choice

Department of Education and Training and VicHealth

- Connecting Through the Middle Years

Department of Education and Training, VicHealth and Department of Justice

- Student Action Teams

Department of Human Services

- Enhancing Specialist Behaviour Services

Northern Territory

Department of Health and Community Services

- Youth at Risk Network
Department of Employment, Education and Training

- Aboriginal and Islander Tertiary Aspirations Program (AITAP)
- AITAP Extension (proposed)

South Australia

Department of Education, Training and Employment

- Career and Transition Management
- Transition Support Networks
- Behavioural Intervention Service
- Bowden Brompton Community School
- Learning Centres
- Playford Partnership
- Profiling 'At Risk' Youth in South Australia 2001
- Target Work
- Transforming Senior Secondary Schooling for Disadvantaged Schools
- Youth Web

Attorney General's Department

- Early Intervention in Crime Prevention

Office of Consumer and Business Affairs (OCBA) and Attorney General's Department

- Youth Initiatives

SA Police

- Living Skills Program
- Operation AWOL Truancy program
- Youth on the Move program

New South Wales

Department of Education and Training

- Priority Schools Funding Program
- Vacation Schools for Senior Students
- Ready for High Schools Summer Schools
- Study Plus
- After Hours HSC Coaching Program
- Gateways Program: Community and Learning Networks
- Plan-It Youth Community Mentoring Program
- Homework Plus
- Gateway Program: Arabic Youth Partnerships

Tasmania

Glenorchy City Council in conjunction with a range of Government agencies

- Pulse Youth Health Centre

Department of Education, Hobart City Council

- Alt Ed
Department of Education

- Education for All

Western Australia

Department of Education

- Students at Educational Risk (SAER) Strategy, Making the Difference
- School Leaver Program
- Safety Net Making it Happen
- Joblinks
- Aboriginal School-Based Traineeship Program

Australian Capital Territory

ACT Department of Education and Community Services

- Student Support Action Plan 2002-2004
- Support Matrix

Commonwealth

Department of Education, Science and Training

- National School Drug Education Strategy and COAG Agreed Measures on Drugs in Schools
- National Literacy and Numeracy Plan (NLNP) and the National Goals for Schooling
- New Apprenticeships
- Implementation of the Framework for Vocational Education in Schools
- VET in Schools programmes
- Career Counselling Programme
- Language, Literacy and Numeracy Programme (LLNP)
- Mentoring of Year 8, 9, 10 Indigenous students
- National Indigenous English Literacy and Numeracy Programme (NIELNS)
- ECEF - WADU Indigenous Youth Partnerships Initiatives
- Australians Working Together - Indigenous Education and Training
- Australians Working Together - Working Together for Indigenous Youth
- Indigenous Ambassadors Programme
- Career and Transition (CATS) Pilots

Department of Family and Community Services

- Stronger Families and Communities Strategy
- Youth Allowance
- Reconnect
- Youth Activities Services Program
- Supported Accommodation Assistance Programme (SAAP)
- National Homelessness Strategy Demonstration Projects
- Transition to Independent Living Allowance (TILA)
- Redevelopment of the Youth Protocol
- Mentor Marketplace
- Adolescent Mediation and Family Therapy
- Collaborative Youth Services Trials
- Innovative and Collaborative Youth Servicing (ICYS) Pilots
- Jobs Placement Employment and Training (JPET)
- Specialised Domestic Violence Services
Personal Support Programme

Department of Family and Community Services, Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, and Department of Education, Science and Training

- Australians Working Together

Department of Family and Community Services and Centrelink

- Parent Liaison Service

Centrelink

- A Youth Servicing Strategy for Centrelink
- Centrelink National Student Services Partnership Group
- Centrelink National Partnership Group for Young Job Seekers and At Risk Young People
- Centrelink Flexible Preparing for Work Agreements for At Risk Young People Under 18 Years
- Breaching rules change to protect the vulnerable
- Centrelink Second Breach Intervention pilots
- Centrelink Third Breach Alert
- Centrelink Truancy Project
- Centrelink’s Linking Opportunities Through Indigenous Education (LOTIE)

Department of Employment and Workplace Relations

- Job Network – Intensive Assistance
- Indigenous Employment

Department of Health and Ageing

- National Divisions Youth Alliance
- National Mental Health Strategy – Kids Helpline
- National Mental Health Strategy and National Suicide Prevention Strategy - MindMatters in Schools
- National Suicide Prevention Strategy – Reach Out!
- National Illicit Drugs Strategy
- Medicare
- National HIV/AIDS Strategy
- National Mental Health Strategy – Mental Health Information Materials
- National Drug Strategic Framework
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Youth Health

Attorney-General’s Department

- National Crime Prevention Program
- Commonwealth Community Legal Services
- Northern Territory Diversionary Scheme

Department of Veterans’ Affairs

- Vietnam Veteran’s Sons and Daughters Project
PULSE Youth Health Centre - Tas

Each week up to 20 mothers and occasionally fathers gather at the centre to participate in a range of talks, access a counsellor, a child health nurse, doctor, write a resume and enjoy the support of other young mothers in the area. A number of the young mums' group has returned to study year 11/12 at Claremont College. Claremont College also supports young mums with the highly successful Young Mother Programs, now in its third year of operation. The women are provided with the opportunity to learn first aid, vocational subjects, literacy and numeracy. The mums welcome the opportunity to engage with the new technological era of online learning, studying vocational subjects and completing the Tasmanian Certificate of Education.

Centre team leader and developer Janet Carty said the group was different from the usual playgroups because it focused on the mothers. The Centre opened in 2001 and was a direct Health Department initiative.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 17.

ALTed - Alternative Education Program - Tas

The ALTed program is an example of current partnership best practice, with the arrangement between Hobart City Council, Elizabeth and Hobart Colleges. The creation of strong links between colleges and the city council supports our youth at risk and demonstrates a commitment to our young citizens.

The ALTed program is a Full Service Schools pilot project which provides an off campus education site for young people who have left school early and now want a second chance to reconnect with education. The centre offers individual case management, literacy and numeracy support, accredited vocational pathways, outdoor skills, life skills and enterprise.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 17.

Middle Years Programs - Student Action Teams Project - Vic

In a Student Action Team (SAT), a group of students identify and tackle a school or community issue: they research the issue, make plans and proposals about it, and take action on it. Student Action Teams provide schools with a student-centred and active approach to community-based learning and community linkages.

Such initiatives, as part of the formal or informal school curriculum, engage students in purposeful, authentic activities which are valued by the students, which have broader community value and which meet or exceed mandated curriculum goals. Student Action Teams involve young people working together with teachers, local government and other community groups.

- Some of the projects and strategy options attempted by schools are:
- Strategies to promote safe sport and recreation, safe routes to school and personal safety
- Strategies to foster expanded cultural understanding and care for vulnerable/minority groups in the community
- Action-based research to investigate and respond to local community safety issues such as: local recreation and public transport options and issues surrounding young people's use of public space
- Strategies to promote a safe and secure learning environment and also those that address school non-attendance (student well-being and engagement)
- Strategies to deal with drug and alcohol abuse

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible
Connecting Through the Middle Years Project - Vic

The project objectives of the Connecting Through the Middle Years Project, which is to trial the Advocacy* approach in Years 5-9, are:

- To improve the connection of young people to schools through promotion of a direct relationship between a teacher and a young person.
- To increase personal skills relating to self-understanding.
- The promotion and development of individual learning and pathways plans, leading to individual learning programs and processes.
- Improved knowledge within the learning organisation of individual students.
- The development and dissemination of support materials and approaches for teachers in working with young people.

The Advocacy Project provides schools with a way to demonstrate their commitment to engaging individual young people in learning. "Advocacy" as understood in this model implies a commitment to supporting, espousing and arguing on behalf of students. The key component is the one-to-one relationship between each student in the program and a teacher/advocate who undertakes specific responsibilities with regard to that student. The project also involves the use of an online system, called the Archemeter which contains student questionnaires that advocates can use to help initiate conversations with students. Some of the questionnaires relate to:

- Quality of school life
- Classroom responsibility
- Student Coping Styles
- Learning Styles

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 17.

"We can Achieve" - Focus on literacy brings success to Elizabeth North Students - Commonwealth

Elizabeth North Primary School, Elizabeth North, SA

Designated as a disadvantaged school, Elizabeth North Primary school in Adelaide's northern suburbs has a high proportion of students with learning difficulties, children with significant intellectual and physical disabilities, and a large population of Aboriginal children and children with language backgrounds other than English.

While he admits that teaching this wide spectrum of children represents a challenge to staff, principal Dick D'Aloia says it's not good enough to expect that some of these children will fail.

'For too long people thought that children in disadvantaged schools didn't have much chance. We as a staff have high but realistic expectations: we know that the students can achieve and never accept what is second class if we know they can do better.'

Equally important, he says, has been providing extra support to those students who need it.

'About four years ago we set about making our classes smaller for about seven hours a week. This has meant that teachers could attend more to children's individual needs,' said Mr D'Aloia. 'This is particularly important in junior primary, because if children haven't mastered basic skills and concepts at that stage, they will experience further failure.'

The focus in these smaller classes has been on literacy. Said Mr D'Aloia, 'Literacy is the highest need of our students here: to speak, to read, to verbalise.'

According to Mr D'Aloia, the program has helped to develop a culture in the school that says, 'we can achieve' - a community perspective that is shared by students and teachers alike.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 17.

Proof of improved performance - Commonwealth

Dandenong South Primary School, Dandenong South, VIC

With more than 85% of students with language backgrounds other than English, literacy achievement levels have always been an issue for Dandenong South Primary School. For further details, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 17.
Literacy achievement levels have always been an issue for Dandenong South Primary School in Melbourne's south-eastern suburbs.

In 1995 the school successfully applied to participate in the Early Literacy Research Project and they have been implementing and refining the strategy since then.

A variety of assessment instruments are used to track students' progress throughout their school careers. These assessment tools allow teachers to work out the starting point for instruction and also helps the teachers to monitor progress over time. The tests are administered regularly and continually through the year.

According to acting principal Lyn Burns, one of the most exciting aspects of the program has been seeing the children's results. 'Staff are sold on the program and committed and enthusiastic about seeing the change, and seeing the kids' improvement and tracking the data.'

'We can track individual students over three years, and see how much closer they are to achieving and even surpassing the school benchmarks.'

Literacy coordinator Nicole Bottrell agrees, 'Because we're tracking the children so closely we can see progress immediately, so there's a real buzz among the teachers as they see the kids improving.'

Written results aren't the only indication of change and progress within the school. Said Ms Burns, 'If you look at what's happening in the classrooms, you'll see kids on task. They're finding it easier to concentrate and not disrupt others. The kids are really engaged because we're catering for their needs.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 17.

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April's Success with on the Job Learning - Commonwealth

Having access to on-the-job learning turned a country student at risk of dropping out of school into a confident mature award winner.

Described as a 'lost soul' in her early high school years, 17 year old April Clarke, successfully completed Year 12 last year and was named 2000 Aboriginal VET student of the Year by the Dubbo district education office.

Described by her Careers Adviser as someone who'll make a terrific employee, April's turnaround came after she decided to change schools mid way through Year 9.

While most students were heading towards the larger town of Narromine to do their schooling, April was going in the opposite direction - to the smaller town of Trangie - an hour each way from home.

She didn't realise that her new school, Trangie Central, in the west of NSW, would provide subjects that would make her schooling more relevant and give her fresh motivation for her studies.

The tiny school, west of Dubbo, began offering Structured Workplace Learning (SWL) in the mid 90's to counter a dramatic drop in retention rates between Years 11 and 12. SWL is a relatively new approach to work experience which replaces the 'passive' model with a structured, competency based work placement for Year 11 and 12 school students.

"We have gone from 90% retention of students from Year 10 into Year 11, to 60% between Years 11 and 12," says Trangie Principal, Don Ewin.

"So we began offering vocational courses which provided a practical approach to studies, linked with the TAFE at Warren, and on the job work placements of five days each.

"Our retention rates quickly rose to 90% of students completing Year 12," he says.

Benefits of SWL are experienced by both employers and students. Participating employers say staff enjoy working with students and sharing knowledge while students provide an extra pair of hands and fresh ideas, while they are acquiring rai skills which will increase their employability.

April studied four practical courses in Year 11 and 12 - retail, hospitality, childcare (TAFE delivered) and office studies - spending a total of 210 hours in the workplace.

She describes her placements as hands on and interesting.

"I was learning so much more and understood things a lot more," she says.
Her placements varied from Dubbo RSL, Narromine Shire Council and Dubbo Base Hospital to Grace Bros. and Toyworld.

April's long term goal is to work and manage a childcare business and she is now studying for her Certificate 3 in Children's Services.

"I think childcare has always been in my blood. I'm the middle child of seven, so I've always been looking after children," she says.

Her experience in the other sectors has also helped April to learn business skills which she intends to apply to her own business one day.

"It really does help to know how they do it. How much rent they have to pay, the paperwork and how to run the whole business. It will help me if I open my own business.

Her career adviser, Sue Rogan, says April changed from a very shy, inward looking girl to a confident and self-reliant student determined to create a positive future for herself.

April was overwhelmed and shocked by her award, which came from what's known as the Dubbo Cluster, who manage the work placements of schools in and around the region.

Through the programme - funded by the Commonwealth's Government's Enterprise and Career Education Foundation (ECEF) - young people from as far as Bourke, Coonamble and Cobar can access Dubbo based industries to expand their horizons, acquire measurable skills and prepare themselves for the workforce.

In the Dubbo Cluster, more than 300 senior students received structured on the job training with over 200 local employers. Reflecting a shift in the local economy, there is a high demand for placements in the tourism and hospitality sector with this industry now providing over 50 per cent of all work placements in Dubbo.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 17.

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Learning in the Workplace gives Matthew the Edge - Commonwealth

Matthew Lander is providing himself with a real advantage for his future career.

He knows that at the end of the year, sacrificing a few weeks out of his school holidays to do work placements at Ford in Geelong will put him ahead of his competition.

"I suppose I could have spent more time at the beach, but it's a small price to pay to be so much ahead of the other people going for an apprenticeship."

Matthew, 17, is one of nine high schools students from the Geelong region undertaking an 18 month certificate1 in Engineering (fitting and turning) in a unique arrangement with the Ford Motor Company of Australia.

The Ford programme began in 2000, when the company took 14 year 11 students from schools belonging to the Geelong Regional Vocational Education Council (GRVEC).

"The Ford Programme has already achieved improved outcomes for the students involved. Students are staying at school longer or moving directly into employment," says GRVEC Education Officer, Marg O'Shea.

Students attend Gordon TAFE one afternoon per week and spend about 45 days in Structured Workplace Learning (SWL) at Ford. SWL is a relatively new approach to work experience providing a structured, competency based work placement for Year 11 and 12 school students.

The student's work placement counts towards a qualification and more than 70 000 senior high school students took part in SWL programmes all over Australia in 2000.

At the end of last year, four of the 14 students at Ford won apprenticeships with Alcoa in Geelong and one left the programme. The remaining nine will complete their placements by the middle of the year.

For Matthew, who is aiming for an apprenticeship with Ford, the programme has kept him at school. His mother, Jenny, says he was unsettled at the beginning of Year 11 and was considering leaving.

"Now he has got his eye set on something, I think being in the programme has cemented a career direction for him. We've certainly had some good reports about him from the plant."

"He's already noticed that he's ahead of some of the other kids in certain classes," Jenny said.

Matthew is now determined to finish Year 12, because he knows apprenticeships are hard to get, and completing both his Certificate 1 at TAFE and his VCE will give him an edge when he leaves school.
"I enjoy it. It's just different from the machine shop at school. I wasn't too sure what type of work we'd be doing - I was a bit surprised. I thought we would be working on bigger equipment, but we also do intricate stuff. I like it all, it's a good mix."

Asked to describe something he was proud of, Matthew says, "One of the other students and I made a big new workbench at the casting plant, which we cut to size and welded together from square tubing. It was pretty easy but it was a good thing to do."

By the time he applies for an apprenticeship later in the year, Matthew will have nine weeks on the job, working Ford's standard hours of 7.30am to 4pm.

He says knowing what you want as a career really helps when you're applying for an apprenticeship. "I'll have spent all that time on the job and I'll have a fair idea of the environment, the size of the company, type of work and the pay."

"Even if I don't get an apprenticeship at Ford, I'll have a major advantage applying for other apprenticeships."

For Ford, their commitment will create a better quality pool of potential apprentices, which means lower recruitment costs.

The company also wants to enhance its training culture.

"It's a personal satisfaction for our tradespeople who have been trained and mentored in the same way. Some of them have approached me with requests to help out. It's a great motivator and provides career development for our staff," says Fords' learning and development Facilitator, Terry McKiernan.

This year, in addition to the nine students already in the programme, a further nine will enter the engineering programme from Year 11, with another five doing shorter placements in electronics, automotive, IT, desktop publishing and business administration. The programme is already proving popular, with 40 applications received this year, compared to 18 last year.

GRVEC is a coalition of 25 schools and 17 VET programmes, which will cater for about 1000 students this year. It is funded by the Commonwealth Government’s Enterprise and Career Education Foundation (ECEF).

The Enterprise and Career Education Foundation is an innovative organisation which works to promote closer relationships between schools and industry, improving opportunities for senior secondary students to move successfully from school to further education, training and working life.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 17.

"Roles and Revolt" theatre, a Reconnect Project - Commonwealth

We were having difficulty accessing Aboriginal people due to a lack of networks. We had talked with an Aboriginal organisation but weren't getting very far. We then approached an Aboriginal theatre group who had extensive networks and explained our work to them. They came up with the idea of using 'Roles and Revolt' theatre as a way of promoting community discussion around the issues.

In this form of theatre, the actors perform a scenario and then the members of the audience are invited to say how they would respond in that situation. The actors then replay the scene incorporating the different responses. This allows the community to debate options and come up with their own solutions.

We trained five theatre workers around family conflict and youth homelessness issues. They are now running one workshop a week in Aboriginal communities around the topic. Our role is to facilitate and coordinate. Control is with the theatre group and we provide them with funding.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 17.
Commonwealth

Elizabeth North Primary School, Elizabeth North, SA

Designated as a disadvantaged school, Elizabeth North Primary school in Adelaide’s northern suburbs has a high proportion of students with learning difficulties, children with significant intellectual and physical disabilities, and a large population of Aboriginal children and children with language backgrounds other than English.

While he admits that teaching this wide spectrum of children represents a challenge to staff, principal Dick D’Aloia says it’s not good enough to expect that some of these children will fail.

‘For too long people thought that children in disadvantaged schools didn’t have much chance. We as a staff have high but realistic expectations: we know that the students can achieve and never accept what is second class if we know they can do better.’

Equally important, he says, has been providing extra support to those students who need it.

‘About four years ago we set about making our classes smaller for about seven hours a week. This has meant that teachers could attend more to children’s individual needs,’ said Mr D’Aloia. ‘This is particularly important in junior primary, because if children haven’t mastered basic skills and concepts at that stage, they will experience further failure.’

The focus in these smaller classes has been on literacy. Said Mr D’Aloia, ‘Literacy is the highest need of our students here: to speak, to read, to verbalise.’

According to Mr D’Aloia, the program has helped to develop a culture in the school that says, ‘we can achieve’ - a community perspective that is shared by students and teachers alike.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 17

Proof of improved performance - Commonwealth

Dandenong South Primary School, Dandenong South, VIC

With more than 85% of students with language backgrounds other than English, literacy achievement levels have always been an issue for Dandenong South Primary School in Melbourne’s south-eastern suburbs.

In 1995 the school successfully applied to participate in the Early Literacy Research Project and they have been implementing and refining the strategy since then.

A variety of assessment instruments are used to track students’ progress throughout their school careers. These assessment tools allow teachers to work out the starting point for instruction and also helps the teachers to monitor progress over time. The tests are administered regularly and continually through the year.

According to acting principal Lyn Burns, one of the most exciting aspects of the program has been seeing the children’s results. ‘Staff are sold on the program and committed and enthusiastic about seeing the change, and seeing the kids’ improvement and tracking the data.’

‘We can track individual students over three years, and see how much closer they are to achieving and even surpassing the school benchmarks.’

Literacy coordinator Nicole Bottrell agrees, ‘Because we’re tracking the children so closely we can see progress immediately, so there’s a real buzz among the teachers as they see the kids improving.’

Written results aren’t the only indication of change and progress within the school. Said Ms Burns, ‘If you look at what’s happening in the classrooms, you’ll see kids on task. They’re finding it easier to concentrate and not disrupt others. The kids are really engaged because we’re catering for their needs.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 17
A family conflict or a fridge - Commonwealth

A family was referred to a Reconnect service. At the initial home visit, the Reconnect workers learnt that a pressing issue for the family was that they had little money and no fridge and that family conflicts often centred around a lack of food/fridge. While helping the family to get a working fridge, did not "solve" family conflict, it did help to stabilise the living environment and some immediate needs of the family. This allowed the family the "space" to approach the more complex issues.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 17.

Involving schools and the whole community, Moonee Valley - Commonwealth

Although schools are key sites for early intervention into a wide range of risk factors in young people's lives, in many communities schools still operate in closed environments and can act as barriers to youth agencies wanting to work with students. However, in Moonee Valley the barriers have broken down and youth agencies and schools have recognised the value of working in partnership and combining their efforts to help build young people's resilience. With connections and supports within and outside the school, young people in Moonee Valley now have a lot more help with problems when they arise.

Located in the inner-western suburbs of Melbourne, the Moonee Valley YAS has been working in partnership with the local high school to run a highly successful support program for adolescent boys.

For this program they chose to use a specific service model that centres on establishing a support group within the school and building an infrastructure that provides ongoing support from community agencies.

Before implementing the program the YAS worker, the school psychologist and deputy principal attended a training program to learn how to use the model. The training was important because it helped them to develop a sense of shared ownership and a strong partnership approach to running the program.

While the model s suited to any age group and gender, they decided to implement it with a group of eight Year 11 boys who were struggling at school. The young men's group was co-facilitated by the YAS worker and the school psychologist.

Although teachers referred participants to the group, participation was voluntary and after the first session the boys were told it was their choice whether to come back or not.

The support group was run for eight sessions with each session focusing on a specific theme. For example, one of the sessions focused on the theme of forgiveness. The facilitators introduced the theme and provided some simple written material on the topic.

The two facilitators then role-modelled talking about a challenging situation that related to the theme.

"We had a group of young guys who were the rough heads in the school, they were the ones getting suspended, getting in fights and barely staying in school...they were disclosing, not just to me or the school psychologist, but to their peers, some full-on stuff about their relationships with their fathers...this had this amazing effect as a bonding thing and a base for some of the guys to be heard for the first time and to express their feelings.

We just had the last session, and had the round up, and every one of these guys got so much more out of the group than I've ever heard young people say they've got out of a group before. These guys were saying that I've learnt that maybe hitting someone isn't the first step that I should take, or that I've learnt that my relationship with my Dad isn't that great, or that I've learnt that all you other guys are going through the same things I'm going through."

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 17.
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 17

Queensland

Post School Survival Tips Publication

This publication is specifically focused on youth and addresses their vulnerability as consumers with limited experience. Teachers’ notes for use in classrooms, speakers for classroom presentations and discussions are also available.

Target group: Year 12 students and young people accessing youth support networks

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Tourism, Racing and Fair Trading

Contact: Executive Manager
          Communication and Coordination
          Office of Fair Trading
          PO Box 3111 Brisbane QLD 4001
          Ph: (07) 3235 9767

Website: http://www.fairtrading.qld.gov.au

School Based Youth Health Nurse Program
(also addresses rec 16)

The School Based Youth Health Nurse Program is a Queensland Government initiative that commenced in 1998. This primary health care program deploys registered nurses to deliver prevention services in state schools with secondary students, and works within the social model of health.

The nurses provide information, advice and support for students, their families and school communities in relation to issues that impact on the health and wellbeing of young people including early identification and brief interventions, and as relevant, facilitate smooth referral pathways to other services and agencies. These nurses also act as advocates for young people in the broader community by raising awareness of their needs.

The nurses provide individual confidential consultations as well as support for whole of schools activities to promote health. This could include: curriculum development; teaching and learning activities (including teacher in-service and parent sessions); organisation of environments supportive of health and wellbeing; and the development of partnerships and networks internal and external to the schools to support positive health outcomes for young people.

Target group: School students aged 12-18+ years and parents, teachers and other school support staff

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing
Youth Drug Summit and the Marginalised Young People's Project
(also addresses recs 16 and 18)

The Youth Drug Consultation Project established twenty-six projects in twenty-four sites across the State targeting at risk young people. It operated in partnership with peak youth and indigenous bodies. Each project focused on young people’s alcohol and drug issues and provided a process for young people to express their ideas, concerns and issues about the prevention of harm relating to alcohol and drug use. Through working together as a team the project also aimed to build protective factors such as connectedness, problem solving, self efficacy and resiliency through improved access to support services for the young people participating in the projects. This project culminated in the Youth Drug Summit in October 2001.

The Marginalised Young People’s Program has been developed as a follow up to the Youth Drug Summit. At the Summit, at risk and marginalised young people and their support workers were invited to present and discuss their ideas and make recommendations to the Queensland Government about improving youth drug prevention programs and services.

The recommendations from the Summit will be included in Queensland Health’s Illicit Drug Action Plan consultations.

A possible next stage is the establishment of local youth drug prevention networks to look at the management and implementation of the Summit recommendations at the local community level.

Target group: Youth

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: 2001 – next steps still under consideration

Responsible agency: Queensland Health

Contact: Senior Prevention Adviser
Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Services
Ph (07) 3234 1942

Website: www.health.qld.gov.au/atods

Taking Big Steps - Transition Information Package
(also addresses rec 16)

The Taking Big Steps project is designed to assist both service providers and young people alike to manage the transition issues associated with moving from rural and remote areas to urban places for employment and educational purposes.

The package provides an overview of the discrete stages of transition with some suggested approaches for helping young people cope with the changes they are experiencing.

Target group: Youth, community members, schools, youth service providers

Coverage: Cape York Area and the Torres Strait Islands with concerted efforts to focus on Hopevale and Wujal Wujal communities
Timeframe: 2001/02

Responsible agency: Queensland Health

Contact: A/State Coordinator
         Young People at Risk Program
         Queensland Health
         Ph (07) 3234 0672

Website: www.health.qld.gov.au

"Poison" School Tobacco Resource Package
(also addresses rec 16)

This project aims to bring together resources into a package that will assist school communities in comprehensively addressing tobacco smoking in accordance with the Health Promoting Schools framework. The package will be introduced to Queensland schools with middle year students in accordance with marketing and implementation plans (including professional development) that will be informed by principles of good practice.

This package will form a major component of the comprehensive 100% IN CONTROL, "Poison" tobacco prevention campaign. "Poison" comprises a cinema commercial, television commercial, community service announcement, supporting resources and pages on the 100% IN CONTROL website (www.100incontrol.com) in addition to the tobacco resource package.

Target group: Members of school communities, including teachers, middle school students, parents, staff and school-based youth health nurses.

Coverage: All Queensland schools with middle school students

Timeframe: Development and implementation during 2002

Responsible agency: Queensland Health in collaboration with Education Queensland, Association of Independent Schools of Queensland, Queensland Catholic Education Commission, University of Queensland, Queensland Council of Parents and Citizens Association and Queensland Cancer Fund.

Contact: Senior Project Officer
         Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Services
         Ph (07) 3234 0344

Website: www.100incontrol.com

Health Promoting Schools Initiatives
(also addresses rec 16 & 20)

Public Health Services and Health Promotion Units across the state have supported the development of a range of Health Promoting Schools initiatives. These support the implementation of new health and physical education syllabuses in the school curriculum, the creation of safe and healthy social and physical environments in schools and the development of partnerships with community services. The Western Gateway Health Promoting Schools Grant Scheme and the Gold Coast Lighthouse Schools Program are good examples of how Queensland Health is supporting schools to work with a range of government and community agencies to address school community identified health and well being issues such as youth risk taking behaviours, mental health and school and community 'connectedness'.

Target group: School aged children and school communities – both primary and secondary schools

Coverage: State wide
MindMatters
(also addresses rec 16)

MindMatters is a national program that Queensland is leading to support secondary schools in promoting and protecting the mental health of members of school communities. It aims to enhance the development of school environments where young people feel safe, valued, engaged and purposeful.

MindMatters helps schools and their communities including teachers, parents and students to take positive action to create a climate of mental as well as physical health within secondary schools. It includes a resource for schools, a professional development training strategy, a dedicated website and an evaluation process.

This initiative will ground the learning from the professional development training strategy that has taken place over the past twelve months. Two project officers are in the process of being appointed and they will be responsible for:

- identifying key strategies for the sustainability of MindMatters in Queensland secondary schools
- developing, implementing and evaluating a range of sustainable strategies with secondary schools
- completing the implementation and evaluation of the professional development training strategy
- establishing supportive environments and strong links between schools, other agencies and communities

Target group: Members of the secondary school community, including teachers, students, parents, Young People at Risk (YPAR) workers and Community Network Support Workers (CNSWs).

Coverage: All Queensland secondary schools

Timeframe: Until approximately June 2003

Responsible agency: Queensland Health

Contact: Education Queensland
LOTE Centre
405 Montague Road, West End Q
PO Box 3663, South Brisbane Q 4101
Ph (07) 3360 7531

Website: cms.curriculum.edu.au/mindmatters

Good Practice Guidelines for Working with Young People at Risk of Suicide or Self Harm who Present at Queensland Health Facilities: A Resource for developing district and service policy and procedures
(also addresses rec 16)

The aim of the project is to develop good practice guidelines for the management of young people at risk of suicide and self-harm who present at Queensland Health facilities. The project is a state wide undertaking and has involved broad consultation with key stakeholders to explore what already exists in terms of policies/protocols regarding the management of young people at risk of suicide and self-harm in
Queensland Health facilities. The project aims to draw from what currently exists as well as learning from national and international research to develop principles for the management of young people at risk. The final document will guide service providers in the key issues for consideration as services and policies are developed or updated.

Target group: Young people
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: 2001/02 – ongoing application
Responsible agency: Queensland Health
Contact: A/State Coordinator
Young People at Risk Program
Queensland Health
Ph (07) 3234 0672
Website: www.health.qld.gov.au

**Me, Mates and Moderation**
(also addresses rec 16)

Me, Mates and Moderation is a school-based alcohol, tobacco and other drug prevention and education program. Based on the Health Promoting Schools framework and contemporary drug education best practice, the program aims to support responsible use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs by young people. Components of the program include a Teacher In Service Program, a Drug Education Manual for Secondary Schools, a Peer Education Program, "Peers Lead Students Focus Days" and the "Danger Game".

Target group: Schools with secondary students
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: Roll-out during 2002
Responsible agency: Queensland Health and Education Queensland
Contact: ATODS Project Co-ordinator
Darling Downs Public Health Unit
Ph (07) 4631 9808
Website: www.health.qld.gov.au
www.education.qld.gov.au

**Youth Support Coordinators**

The Youth Support Coordinator initiative is an early intervention and prevention strategy aimed at preventing student homelessness and early school leaving. Youth Support Coordinators (YSCs) are employed by community-based organisations funded by the Department of Families. The program aims to establish collaborative relationships between schools and community services to enable better responses to the needs of young people experiencing personal or family difficulties.

Youth Support Coordinators work directly with individual young people and their families as well as working developmentally both within the school and the community. They provide a mix of the following components:

- individual counselling and family work
- coordination of referrals
- group work
- developmental whole-of-school strategies such as teacher, student and parent education, community development strategies aimed
at linking community organisations with the school and collaboratively addressing identified gaps in service delivery to young people and their families.

Target group: At risk youth

Coverage: 36 participating schools across the State

Timeframe: Commenced in 1997 and currently funded on a triennial basis until 2003

Responsible agency: Department of Families
Contact: Director
   Families Youth and Community Branch
   Ph: (07) 3225 2372

Website: www.families.qld.gov.au

Regional Youth Crime Prevention Projects
(also addresses rec 18)

Funding for community organisations in targeted regional communities to provide programs, which address the factors that contribute to youth offending or re-offending.

Target group: Youth aged 10-17 years at risk of offending or re-offending

Coverage: Cairns and Far North Queensland, Townsville, Thuringowa, Charters Towers, Mackay, Rockhampton, Gladstone and Wide Bay

Timeframe: 2000/2003

Responsible agency: Department of Families
Contact: Executive Director
   Youth Justice
   Ph: (07) 3247 5357

Website: www.families.qld.gov.au

Youth Crime Prevention Services
(also addresses recs 18 and 19)

Funding is provided to community organisations to contribute to the reduction in youth crime through the provision of programs that address the factors that contribute to youth offending or re-offending. Young people have the opportunity to achieve their maximum potential and participate in family and community life, through the delivery of programs and services that address the underlying causes of offending.

Target group: Young people aged 10-17 years at risk of offending or re-offending

Coverage: 25 services in areas of high youth crime across the State

Timeframe: Commenced in 1992 and is ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Families
Contact: Director
   Service Development Branch, Youth Justice
   Ph: (07) 2335 2372

Website: www.families.qld.gov.au

School Mediation
(also addresses rec 17)
The Alternative Dispute Resolution Branch of the Queensland Department of Justice & Attorney-General provides a free, accessible mediation service to communities across Queensland. Trained mediators assist parties to discuss their concerns and to negotiate mutually acceptable agreements. Attendance at mediation is voluntary. Dispute Resolution Centres are based in Brisbane, Hervey Bay, Rockhampton, Mackay, Townsville and Cairns. Mediations can be conducted between members of school communities including student / student, student / staff or parent / staff disputes.

Target group: School aged children / school communities

Coverage: Mediators are located in Brisbane, Toowoomba, Roma, Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast, Hervey Bay, Rockhampton, Mackay, Townsville, Mt Isa, Cairns and surrounding regions (service provision to more remote regional areas may be negotiated).

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Queensland Department of Justice & Attorney-General

Contact: Executive Manager
Alternate Dispute Resolution Branch
Ph (07) 3239 6007 or Freecall 1800 017 288


**Family Support Program**
(also addresses rec 16)

The Family Support Program aims to support families where the child with the disability is at risk of entering the care of the state or the family is at risk of breakdown.

Families receive assistance from a facilitator for information, planning, linking with formal and informal supports, advocacy and personal supports; and access to discretionary funding for the purchase of a range of supports and services, according to the families needs.

Target Group:

- Children and young people under the age of 18 years with a disability as defined under the Queensland Disability Services Act (1992) living with their birth or adoptive family.
- The family is at risk of breakdown or the child is at risk of entering the care of the Department of Families.

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible Agency: Disability Services Queensland

Contact: Senior Program Development Officer
Ph: (07) 3224 8036

Initiatives targeting Recommendation 17

Victoria

Managed Individual Pathways Initiative

Tagged resources will provide guidance support for students with a case management approach to services, including Pathways Planning. This initiative is a strong tool for recognition of problems in schools.

Target group: Young people aged 15 - 19 years especially those at risk of dropping out of formal education or training

Coverage: State wide in government schools, TAFE and ACE sectors

Timeframe: 2001-2003

Responsible Agency: Department of Education and Training

Website: [www.det.vic.gov.au](http://www.det.vic.gov.au)

Pathways Project

This project is designed to inform pathways policy, in particular the development of local models for developing student pathway plans.

Target group: Young people aged 15 - 19 years especially those who need additional support to remain in education, training or employment.

Coverage: Phase 1 - initially in 12 areas of high need Phase 2 - until February 2002 - ten additional areas In addition, four projects for young people from Spanish-speaking countries, the Horn of Africa and from Koori backgrounds not engaged in education but who spend time in the City of Melbourne

Timeframe: August 2000- February 2002

Responsible Agency: Office of Portfolio Integration, Department of Education and Training

Website: [www.det.vic.gov.au](http://www.det.vic.gov.au)

Local Learning and Employment Networks

LLENs bring together the expertise and experience of local education and training providers, industry, community and government organisations and individuals to improve education, training and employment outcomes for 15 to 19 year olds through local initiatives

Target group: Young people aged 15 - 19 years

Coverage: Metropolitan, rural and regional communities across Victoria

Timeframe: 2001-2004

Responsible Agency: Department of Education and Training
Working with Children and Adolescents Affected by Torture and Trauma -
The Rainbow Program for Refugee Students - Not a Matter of Choice

Training programs, learning and teaching resources to support refugee students in Victorian schools.

Target group: Refugee students, their teachers and parents

Coverage: Schools with refugee students

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible Agency: Department of Education and Training in conjunction with the Victorian Foundation for Survivors of Torture

Connecting Through the Middle Years

This project's objectives are to trial the Advocacy approach in years 5-9 to:

- improve young people's connection to school;
- increase young people's personal skills relating to self-understanding;
- promote and develop individual learning and pathways plans;
- improve knowledge within the learning organisation of individual students; and
- develop and disseminate support materials and approaches for teachers working with young people.

Target group: Students in years 5-9 who are at risk of disconnecting from their peers, family, school and community

Coverage: Pilot of 5 primary schools and secondary schools in 2001 with a further 16 schools being added to program in 2002

Timeframe: After pilot completed anticipated that most schools will adopt program

Responsible Agency: Department of Education and Training

Website: www.det.vic.gov.au

Student Action Teams Project

Student Action Teams involve young people working together with teachers, local government and other community groups to investigate, identify and implement strategies for promoting safer communities.

Target group: Students in years 5-9 who are at risk of disconnecting from their peers, family, school and community

Coverage: Pilot of 39 primary and secondary schools in 2001

Timeframe: After pilot has been completed it is anticipated that most schools will attend professional development in relation to the program

Responsible Agency: Learning and Teaching Innovation Division of the Department of Education and Training, VicHealth and Department of Justice - Crime Prevention Victoria

Website: www.det.vic.gov.au

Enhancing Specialist Behaviour Services - Adolescent Initiative

This initiative aims to develop a comprehensive service model of prevention and treatment for adolescents with a disability who have been identified as 'at risk" of displaying offending behaviour or have established patterns of offending behaviour.

Target group: Adolescents with a disability who are at risk of displaying offending
behaviours or have established patterns of offending behaviour

Coverage: All nine Disability Services Regional Offices around Victoria have received funds to implement and pilot a range of models Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible Agency: Department of Human Services, Disability Services Division

Website: www.dhs.vic.gov.au
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 17

Northern Territory

Youth at Risk Network

An inter-agency, cross discipline network that has developed an Action Plan for immediate response to intervene when students/young people are identified as 'at risk'.

The focus is on identifying young people at risk as early as possible so that holistic intervention can be actioned by the most appropriate agencies.

The group has broad representation from government and non-government agencies within the Alice Springs community including Department of Employment, Education and Training.

Target group: Young people

Coverage: Alice Springs and neighbouring communities

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Health and Community Services


Aboriginal and Islander Tertiary Aspiration Program (AITAP)

The Aboriginal and Islander Tertiary Aspiration Program (AITAP) is a school and community based support program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students who hope to complete Year 12 studies and enter higher education courses. It encourages, supports and assists them during their secondary school years to improve their academic attainment and achieve their career aspirations.

Target group: Indigenous students in urban secondary schools

Coverage: Urban secondary schools in the NT

Timeframe: 2001 - 2004

Responsible agency: Department of Employment, Education and Training

Website: [www.education.nt.gov.au](http://www.education.nt.gov.au)

AITAP Extension

Extension of The Aboriginal and Islander Tertiary Aspiration Program (AITAP) to include Indigenous secondary students attending remote community schools and Indigenous students in urban secondary schools aged 12 years and upwards.

The program will focus on student progression to tertiary education and employment; transition from primary to secondary schooling; retention of students through to Year 12; personal development for 'at risk' Indigenous students such as building sound study skills.
Target group: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students
Coverage: Urban high schools and remote community schools
Timeframe: 2002 - 2004
Responsible agency: Department of Employment, Education and Training
Website: www.education.nt.gov.au
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 17

South Australia

Career and Transition Management

All young people will be provided with services to enable them to make successful transitions to further education, training and adult life.

Support includes:

- General advice and support services
- In depth support for those at risk
- Integrated specialist support for those facing substantial, multiple disadvantages

The key elements of the Career and Transition Management Framework include:

- Pathway plan
- Access to career information, guidance and advice
- Placement or referral
- Support services eg mentoring, case management
- Follow up monitoring and tracking

Target group: All young people in 20 regional groups aged 13 -19 years.

Coverage: Current trials in four regions

Timeframe: Full implementation 2002-2003

Responsible agency: DETE - Enterprise and Voc. Ed.

Website: www.dete.sa.gov.au

Transition Support Networks

Regional networks will, through Transition Support Networks develop approaches to career and transition support which will provide assistance to young people and their families. It will be driven by local partnerships and will allow regional networks to respond collaboratively to the needs of young people and the local community.

The project aims to support transition support networks to:

- Set their own locally relevant objectives within the agreed Career and Transition Management Framework
- Design their own advisory and planning structures and local action structures
- Pool local, state and CW bodies to support local initiatives
- Support 13-19 year olds, especially young people who are disconnected from schools or are at risk of leaving school early, by strengthening their abilities to make successful transitions to post school options.

Target group: All young people within each EVE region aged 13 -19 years, especially those who are at risk or disconnected

Coverage: Current trial with four regional groups
**Timeframe:** Proposed extension 2002-2003  
**Responsible agency:** DETE - Enterprise and Vocational Education  
**Website:** www.dete.sa.gov.au

**Behavioural Intervention Service**

Client-focussed planning by a cross agency multidisciplinary team to provide intervention and an individualised response to students at risk of becoming disconnected to peers, family schools and the community through extreme and difficult to manage behaviour problems.

**Target group:** Students with extreme and difficult to manage behaviour problems  
**Coverage:** State wide  
**Timeframe:** Ongoing

**Responsible agency:** DETE-Student and Professional Services  
**Website:** www.dete.sa.gov.au

**Bowden Brompton Community School**

Bowden Brompton Community School is an alternative secondary school that focuses on young people who have become educationally and socially marginalised. It provides ongoing schooling for disinclined, disruptive and disadvantaged students who have experienced limited success in mainstream schooling.

**Target group:** Young people who have become educationally and socially marginalised  
**Coverage:** Metropolitan  
**Timeframe:** Ongoing

**Responsible agency:** DETE-Student and Professional Services  
**Website:** www.dete.sa.gov.au

**Learning Centres**

Learning centres provide short term alternative programs for students experiencing behavioural, social and emotional difficulties. The focus of the learning centre is to support the students to improve both their learning and their behaviour.

The program provides an opportunity to work on behaviour issues within a supportive centre and aims for the student to return to their enrolled school after completing their program in the learning centre.

**Target group:** Students experiencing behavioural, social and emotional difficulties  
**Coverage:** Metropolitan  
**Timeframe:** Ongoing

**Responsible agency:** DETE-Student and Professional Services  
**Website:** www.dete.sa.gov.au

**Playford Partnership**

Joint initiative between City of Playford, Northern Area Community and Youth Services, Smithfield Plains High School, Para West Adult Campus, Anglican Mission SA, Centrelink and Para Work Links which aims to provide young people with a
diverse and accredited educational program that enables them to achieve success, build life skills and positive self esteem through relevant learning activities. There is a focus on strengthening the development of collaborative work in youth services across the Playford community.

Target group: 12-18 year olds who are at risk of leaving school or who are recently disconnected from education

Coverage: Playford Area, Northern Adelaide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: DETE-Metro Schools and Children's Services

Website: www.dete.sa.gov.au

**Profiling 'At Risk' Youth in South Australia 2001**

A study of 'at risk' youth aged between 12 and 24 through developing a reliable and valid methodology for profiling young people in the 'at risk' categories, in particular those who are not participating in the labour force and not studying.

Target group: Youth aged between 12 and 24

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: To be completed 31.3.02

Responsible agency: DHS- Policy Planning and Corporate with ABS, DETE and Justice

Website: www.dhs.sa.gov.au

**Target work**

Target work is a group of alternative programs that offer students at risk the opportunity to study and experience work and vocational pathways as a focus to their education. The program coordinates projects in conjunction with state and local government for students at risk of leaving school and provides work experience opportunities, SACE accreditation and TAFE. Projects that have been completed by the program include: Brighton beach board and chain walk; the West Beach boardwalk project; the Wirra Birra Wildlife Sanctuary project; and the Adelaide Parklands Youth Project

Target group: Students 'at risk' of leaving school

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: DETE-Student and Professional Services

Website: www.dete.sa.gov.au

**Transforming Senior Secondary Schooling for Disadvantaged Schools**

Models of curriculum, delivery and assessment within mainstream accreditation processes.

Target group: Students at Risk of not completing senior secondary education

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: 1 year

Responsible agency: DETE (Curriculum)
**Youth Web**

A joint initiative of DETE, DHS, Centacare, Catholic Education Service, Baptist Community Services and Southern Junction Youth Services, the project assists in the development of whole school and community support structures for students who are most at risk of disengaging early from education.

These structures form part of a support plan, which relies on the strengths of the young person as identified by the young person, the family, the school and the team. The support plan enlists the backing of non-traditional support persons to facilitate a more positive engagement of the young person with education and community life. The model is based on the Wraparound process developed by American academic and researcher, Lucille Eber.

Target group: 13-25 year olds at risk of disengaging

Coverage: Metropolitan

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: DHS - Metropolitan Division

Website: [www.dhs.sa.gov.au](http://www.dhs.sa.gov.au)

**Early Intervention in Crime Prevention**

Develop, implement and evaluate early intervention or developmental approaches in crime prevention, focussing on key transition points. The risk and protective factors for 'becoming disconnected from family, school and community' are very similar to those factors for developing offending behaviours.

Target group: Yet to be negotiated in local communities

Coverage: Two localities in SA (one rural, one metro); communities with high levels of socio-economic disadvantage.

Timeframe: Three year project 2001-2003; with intent to develop longitudinal evaluation

Responsible agency: Attorney - General's Department

Website: [www.justice.sa.gov.au](http://www.justice.sa.gov.au)

**Youth initiatives**

- Youth section of OCBA's Website
- 'Before you Splash your Cash' brochure

OCBA does not have any specific initiatives to address these recommendations however there are a range of packages which can be incorporated in bigger strategies. Eg, OCBA maintains a range of financial, renting and purchasing advice specifically aimed at younger people who are trying to make their respective ways in late teens or early adulthood.

OCBA is also a regular contributor to school curriculum work on consumer-related issues by providing materials and presentations. OCBA can provide supporting information to teachers who want to equip students with basic personal survival and life skills in the areas mentioned above as well as provide presentations to groups of students and has regularly done so in the school environment.

Target group: Any age

Coverage: State wide
**Living Skills Program**, now called 'Operation Role Model'

This program is school-based and aimed at developing life skills for at risk young people. It is aimed at truants and young people displaying anti-social behaviour.

Target group: 13-16 years

Coverage: Metropolitan - Northern suburbs

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: SAPOL

Website: [www.sapolic sa.gov.au](http://www.sapolic sa.gov.au)

**Operation AWOL Truancy program**

This collaborative program between police and DETE was implemented due to the number of young people of compulsory school age being apprehended for shop stealing and aims to minimise habitual/casual truancy.

Target group: 6-15 years

Coverage: Metropolitan - South Coast

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: SAPOL

Website: [www.sapolic sa.gov.au](http://www.sapolic sa.gov.au)

**Youth on the Move program**

This program between State Govt, Local Govt and non-Govt sectors aims to identify young people at risk with a primary focus on young Aboriginal people between 10-18 years of age. Interagency and community partnership arrangements are a key component of this program and involve regular interagency meetings and development of focussed intervention programs.

Target group: 10-18 years of age, particularly Aboriginal people

Coverage: Murray Bridge

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: SAPOL

Website: [www.sapolic sa.gov.au](http://www.sapolic sa.gov.au)
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 17

New South Wales

Priority Schools Funding Program

The NSW Priority Schools Funding Program (PSFP) provides additional support to assist school communities to improve literacy and numeracy achievements and participation. Targeted schools serve the highest concentrations of students from low socio-economic status (SES) families. Priority schools work particularly on three interrelated areas of action: quality teaching and learning, classroom and school organisation and school culture, and school community partnerships.

Target group: Government school students and their communities in areas of highest socio-economic disadvantage.

Coverage: There are 544 Priority Schools across the state, including primary, secondary, central and schools for specific purposes.

Timeframe: Commonwealth's funding quadrennium.

Responsible agency: NSW Department of Education and Training.

Website: [https://www.det.nsw.edu.au](https://www.det.nsw.edu.au)

Vacation schools for senior students

Vacation schools for senior students are held during the summer or autumn vacation at a variety of sites, including TAFE campuses. They provide opportunities for students to improve literacy, numeracy and computing outcomes, study skills, self respect and orientation to senior schooling. Students have access to computers and the Internet.

Target group: Socio-economically disadvantaged government school students moving from Year 10 to Year 11 who are experiencing difficulties in their studies.

Coverage: Vacation schools usually operate in six or seven districts.

Timeframe: Commonwealth funding quadrennium.

Responsible agency: NSW Department of Education and Training.

Website: [https://www.det.nsw.edu.au](https://www.det.nsw.edu.au)

Ready for High School summer schools

Ready for High School summer schools are held during the January school vacation, usually on a high school site. They provide opportunities for students to improve literacy, numeracy and computing outcomes and to become more orientated to high school. Students have access to computers and the Internet. Motivational and confidence building activities are included.

Target group: Socio-economically disadvantaged government school students moving from primary school Year 6 to high school Year 7 who are experiencing difficulties with literacy and numeracy.
Study Plus

Study Plus assists talented students to study English or mathematics at a higher level. Students in Year 6 have the opportunity to study secondary level English or mathematics with a high school teacher. Students in Years 9 and 10 can work to a high standard with TAFE teachers, university tutors or specialist high school teachers. Initiatives operate throughout the year.

Target group: Talented and high performing government school students in Years 6, 9 and 10 from socio-economically disadvantaged communities.

Coverage: Study Plus initiatives operate in ten districts.

Timeframe: Commonwealth funding quadrennium.

Responsible agency: NSW Department of Education and Training.

Website: https://www.det.nsw.edu.au

After Hours HSC Coaching Program

The After Hours HSC Coaching Program assists students who may be experiencing difficulties in their studies to prepare for the HSC. It provides funds to government schools with high concentrations of disadvantaged students. Schools are able to provide intensive tuition in Higher School Certificate subjects to individuals or small groups of students outside normal school hours.

Target group: Educationally disadvantaged young people studying for the NSW Higher School Certificate.

Coverage: 73 schools across NSW.

Timeframe: Ongoing.

Responsible agency: NSW Department of Education and Training.

Website: https://www.det.nsw.edu.au

Gateways Program: Community and Learning Networks

The Gateways Program is an innovative early intervention and prevention initiative in the Fairfield district to increase the retention, participation and completion of schooling. It provides effective drug education for all government primary and secondary school students.

The Gateways Program is the contribution of the Department of Education and Training to the Premier's Action Plan for Cabramatta. Strategies include case management, individual education plans, mentoring, TAFE courses for selected school students and drug education.

Target group: Young people in government schools who are at risk of disengaging from education and training and not completing Year 12 or its training equivalent and young people who have discontinued their schooling and are at risk of drug misuse.

Coverage: Young people in 48 government school communities in the Fairfield district.
Plan-It Youth Community Mentoring Program

Plan-It Youth assists young people to help themselves. The program matches specially trained adult mentors from the local community to work with young people who are at risk of leaving school early. Issues include success at school, making the transition to work and school, personal and family relationships. This is a collaborative activity with the Dusseldorp Skills Forum.

Target group: Young people in Years 9 or 10 who are at risk of not completing Year 12 or its training equivalent.

Coverage: Currently operating on the Central Coast of NSW. Sponsorship is being sought to expand the initiative into five other districts.

Timeframe: Ongoing, depending on community sponsorship.

Responsible agency: NSW Department of Education and Training.

Website: https://www.det.nsw.edu.au

Homework Plus

Homework Plus is a proposal to expand the alternative schools project partnership between the Department of Education and Training and Police Citizens and Youth Clubs (PCYC). Homework Plus will provide selected students with after school hours tutoring and assistance with homework.

Target group: 160 Arabic speaking Year 6 students and high school students who have been identified as being at risk of not completing schooling to Year 12 or its vocational equivalent.

Coverage: Four Sydney school districts.


Responsible agency: NSW Department of Education and Training.

Website: https://www.det.nsw.edu.au

Gateways Program: Arabic Youth Partnerships

The Gateways Program: Arabic Youth Partnerships is an innovative program to increase the retention, participation and completion of schooling to Year 12 of 200 Arabic speaking young people. Strategies include mentoring, access to TAFE courses, case management and community support.

Target group: Young Arabic speaking people in government schools who are at risk of not completing Year 12 or its training equivalent.

Coverage: Government schools in the Bankstown, Granville, Liverpool and St George districts.


Responsible agency: NSW Department of Education and Training in collaboration with community agencies.

Website: https://www.det.nsw.edu.au
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 17

Tasmania

**Pulse Youth Health Centre**

Provides a one stop health and well being service for young people. The centre has a multidisciplinary staff consisting of youth worker, youth housing, health worker and alcohol and drug worker. The service has close working relationships with police and combines clinical and youth access facilities where young people can undertake recreational activities in a safe and supportive environment. Education Department uses the Pulse Health Centre to provide educational programs to individuals and groups of young people. The level of resource sharing and collaboration is an excellent model for "joined up" services to young people as referred to in "Footprints to the Future"

Target: 15-19 years
Coverage: Glenorchy City
Timeframe: 2000 - current
Responsible Agency: Glenorchy City Council in conjunction with a range of government agencies
Website: [www.gcc.tas.gov.au](http://www.gcc.tas.gov.au)

**Alt Ed**

The ALTed program is a pilot program designed to allow for an alternative source of education for young people that have become disconnected from mainstream education, or are at risk of doing so. An initiative of Hobart City Council, Elizabeth College and Hobart College.

Coverage: Southern Tasmania, 16 -18 years
Timeframe: Current 2002
Responsible Agency: Department of Education, Hobart City Council
Website: [www.education.tas.gov.au](http://www.education.tas.gov.au)  

**Education for All**

Department of Education's Bowen support services team has developed a comprehensive approach to supporting students with challenging behaviours. The team works with schools on early identification of at risk students and develops strong links with inter agencies. Behaviour support plans and if need be alternate programs developed which includes work placement and community based projects. Similar programs are based State wide

Coverage: State wide
Time Frame: 2001 - current
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 17

Western Australia

Students at Educational Risk (SAER) Strategy, Making the Difference

Schools collaborate with key stakeholders to develop educational plans for students at educational risk. Central office has responsibility for facilitating interagency cooperation.

Education districts are required to develop, implement and report on their Retention and Participation Plan which has a key focus area of Community and Interagency Participation.

Target group: K - Year 12
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible Agency: Department of Education
Website: www.eddept.wa.edu.au

School Leaver Program

The School Leaver Program aims to identify and assist school leavers who are unable to secure employment, education and/or training placements once they have left school.

Target group: School students in years 10, 11 and 12
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible agency: Department of Training, Education Department
Website: www.eddept.wa.edu.au

Safety Net Making it Happen

Safety Net is an early intervention strategy targeting students who display early signs of at risk behaviour (ie truancy or other behaviour resulting in suspension).

Target group: Youth at risk
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: 2002
Responsible agency: Department of Training, Education Department
Website: www.eddept.wa.edu.au

Joblinks
The Joblink program is a community-based employment service, which provides a range of activities to assist local job seekers into employment or training.

Joblink services and activities include:
- employment counselling;
- advice and assistance with job search techniques; and
- support for school leavers to access employment.

Target group: Local communities and youth specific

Coverage: Metropolitan and regional localities

Timeframe: 2002

Responsible agency: Department of Training

Website: www.training.wa.gov.au

Aboriginal School-Based Traineeship Program

This program provides an integrated approach towards the education and vocational training of young Aboriginal students in order to increase school retention rates and reduce unemployment.

Target group: Students are drawn principally from post-compulsory school years. The minimum age for a traineeship is 15 years.

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Training, Community Development Employment Projects, Education Department

Websites: www.eddept.wa.edu.au
          www.training.wa.gov.au
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 17

Australian Capital Territory

Student Support Action Plan 2002-2004

The Student Support Action Plan 2002-2004 is designed to address the needs of young people at risk of not achieving satisfactory outcomes from education and training. It is based on the premise that policy and practice designed to support the most disadvantaged are of benefit to all students. The plan outlines new initiatives and improvements to current school and department programs and ensures that models of good practice are shared between schools and their communities. To support implementation of the plan, each school and college will review current actions and identify areas for future development as part of their annual school plan. Department actions will also be evaluated and reported annually.

The commitments of the plan are to:

- provide safe, supportive, welcoming and culturally inclusive education environments;
- improve transition pathways through the levels of schooling and to work;
- engage all students in learning through contemporary, challenging and relevant programs;
- improve literacy and numeracy outcomes for all students;
- develop genuine and ongoing partnerships between schools and parents and carers, business and the community; and
- improve interagency collaboration.

A support matrix has been provided as an appendix to the plan. The matrix details the appropriate service provided by the ACT Department of Education and Community Services for each developmental stage.

A community consultation has been conducted and the Student Support Action Plan 2002-2004 was improved by the process. The plan will be released during 2002 in its final form along with the ACT Government Schools Plan 2002-2004.

Target Group: ACT government school students

Coverage: Territory wide

Timeframe: 2002-2004

Responsible Agency: ACT Department of Education and Community Services

Contact Information: Student Support Unit, (02) 6205 9198

Website: www.decs.act.gov.au

Support Matrix

During 2001 the ACT Assembly Standing Committee on Education, Community Services and Recreation released its report on "adolescents and young adults at risk of not achieving satisfactory education and training outcomes".
One of the responses to the report has been the compilation of a support matrix, designed to detail the appropriate services provided by the ACT Department of Education and Community Services for each developmental stage of life. The matrix has been a collaborative effort from all sections of the Department and is updated regularly.

The matrix also contains an analysis of gaps in service provision. This work complements the Unmet Need Project, a current service mapping and needs analysis project being undertaken by the ACT Government involving education, housing, justice, health and community services.

Target Group: Young people in the ACT

Coverage: Territory wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible Agency: ACT Department of Education and Community Services

Contact Information: Education Policy and Planning, (02) 6205 9405

Website: [www.decs.act.gov.au](http://www.decs.act.gov.au)
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 17

Commonwealth

National School Drug Education Strategy and COAG Agreed Measures for Drugs in Schools

The National School Drug Education strategy aligns with the National Drug Action Plans developed under the National Drug Strategic Framework 1998-99 to 2002-03. The Strategy strengthens the provision of educational programmes and supportive environments that contribute to the goal of ‘no illicit drugs in schools’. This goal is based on the belief that illicit and other unsanctioned drug use in schools is unacceptable. The focus is on educational outcomes. Assisting students with drug related problems and deterring the presence and use of unsanctioned drugs in schools is also addressed under the Strategy.

Key measures under the Strategy include contracted funding to each State and Territory to enhance school drug education activities, such as:

- professional development for teachers in the area of drug education;
- information and education for parents on drug matters;
- school and community partnerships, including new ways of delivering drug education and information on healthy lifestyles;
- engaging indigenous communities in school drug education; and for a range of nationally strategic initiatives undertaking research and promoting best practice.

COAG resolved in 1999 that illicit drugs have no place in our schools and that the response to drug use in schools would be strengthened. The National Framework for Protocols for Managing the Possession, Use and/or Distribution of Illicit and Other Unsanctioned Drugs in Schools (National Framework) has been developed to provide a consistent approach to dealing with drug issues in schools, developed in cooperation with the government, Catholic and independent school sectors, and agreed to and endorsed by all Australian governments.

Key measures currently being progressed under this initiative include Local School-Community Drug Summits (the summits) and the School Drug Education Information (SDEI) project. The summits aim to bring school staff, parents and key community members together to encourage stronger, broader and more integrated community engagement and support in addressing illicit and unsanctioned drug use by young people. The Summits are also the key initiative for the implementation of the National Framework and strengthening prevention and early intervention activities in schools.

The SDEI is developing a suite of multi-media resources that support effective drug education and management in Australian schools. The resources focus on multimedia teaching and learning activities to support classroom-based drug education activities; professional development for teachers implementing effective drug education within and beyond the classroom; and an overarching framework for strengthening a whole school approach for effective drug education strategies and management.

Target group: Students, teachers, parents and school community members
The development of appropriate literacy and numeracy standards is a national issue and Governments have acted to achieve real and measurable improvements in both literacy and numeracy skills for all Australian children, which will better prepare them for the future.

In April 1999, State, Territory and Commonwealth Ministers of Education met as the Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs (MCEETYA) in Adelaide. At that meeting, Ministers endorsed a set of National Goals for Schooling in the Twenty-First Century. The goals are known as The Adelaide Declaration on National Goals for Schooling in the Twenty-First Century.

As part of the National Goals for Schooling in the Twenty-First Century, Commonwealth, State and Territory Ministers for Education have agreed on a National Literacy and Numeracy Goal that: 'students should have attained the skills of numeracy and English literacy, such that every student should be numerate, able to read, write, spell and communicate at an appropriate level'. This national goal represents community expectations for all schools in literacy and numeracy.

To help support the achievement of the National Goal, all Education Ministers have endorsed a National Literacy and Numeracy Plan, which calls for a coordinated approach at the national level to improving literacy and numeracy standards and consists of the following key inter-related elements:

- comprehensive assessment of all students as early as possible, to identify those students at risk of not making adequate progress towards the national literacy and numeracy goals;
- intervening as early as possible to address the needs of students identified as at risk;
- the development of agreed national benchmarks in literacy and numeracy, against which all students' achievement in these years can be assessed and measured;
- progress towards national reporting by systems on student achievement against the benchmarks; and
- professional development for teachers to support the key elements of the National Plan.

All government and non-government education authorities receiving Commonwealth funding must make a commitment to achieving the legislated performance measures and targets which are set out in the States Grants (Primary and Secondary Education Assistance) Act 2000.

These performance measures and targets include the reporting of nationally comparable literacy and numeracy benchmarking data for years 3, 5 and 7.

Target Group: All school age children with a focus on early years.
New Apprenticeships

A New Apprenticeship is an apprenticeship or traineeship which offers new training flexibilities, new support service arrangements and opportunities in more industries than before.

New Apprenticeships can cover full or part-time work. The part-time arrangements are also available to school students. New Apprenticeships involve a combination of paid work and structured training and must be underpinned by a training agreement which is registered with the relevant State/Territory Training Authority.

New Apprenticeships Centres are a support service established by the Commonwealth Government. They provide information on New Apprenticeships to employers, New Apprentices and other interested parties. They also administer the Commonwealth incentives payments. These incentives are aimed at increasing New Apprenticeships opportunities by supporting employers in the public, private and community sectors to offer ongoing employment and structured training opportunities to New Apprentices.

Target Group: Many New Apprentices are young people, some starting at school, however, adults can be trained under the New Apprenticeships programme.

Geographical Coverage: National
Timeframe: Ongoing
Contact details:
Branch Manager
New Apprenticeships Branch
Vocational Education and Training Group
Department of Education, Science and Training
02 6240 7338

Initiative Website address: http://www.newapprenticeships.gov.au/

Implementation of the Framework for VET in Schools
(Also addresses in Recommendation 22)

The Commonwealth is working with all Education Ministers through the Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs (MCEETYA) to implement a new Framework for vocational education in schools.

The Framework promotes a broad view of Vocational Education in order to prepare students for work. This is integrated into the school curriculum at all levels, not just the post-compulsory years. The Framework encompasses career information and guidance, as well as both general and dual-accredited VET courses, including school-based New Apprenticeships.

Target group: School students
Coverage: National
Timeframe: 2001 - 2004
Responsible Agency: State, Territory and Commonwealth education and training authorities

**VET in Schools programmes**
(Also addresses in Recommendation 22)

One element of the Framework for VET in Schools is the continuing work to expand Vocational Education and Training (VET) in the post-compulsory years including part-time, school-based New Apprenticeships. VET in Schools programmes provide credit towards the senior secondary certificate and a national industry-recognised vocational qualification. Vocational Education programmes may involve on-the-job training with local businesses, giving students valuable exposure to the workplace and development of work-related skills.

Target group: School students (senior secondary)

Coverage: National
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible Agency: Commonwealth, State and Territory education and training authorities, non-government education authorities and the Australian National Training Authority (ANTA)

**Career Counselling Programme**

The purpose of the Career Counselling Programme is to help people establish or redefine their employment, education and training goals and develop career management, research and decision making skills, against a background of self knowledge and a realistic understanding of the world of work.

Job seekers who are having trouble deciding what they want in a career and needing direction--whether it is deciding on a course of study, upgrading their existing skills or just finding the right job--can receive assistance through Career Counselling.

Career counselling involves attending a group counselling session and/or an individual counselling session with professional counsellors, informed about labour market opportunities, taking a pro-active approach in assisting unemployed people through a range of activities which can include:

- exercises that identify and match their goals, interests and abilities;
- exploring the range of jobs available within their various areas of interest and possibly their physical locations;
- directing the people to information on educational requirements and if necessary educational preparation programmes;
- developing career research and decision making skills;
- assisting individuals develop strategies towards employment in their chosen careers;
- developing a realistic understanding of the world of work; and
- assisting participants to develop or revise an action plan.

Target Group:

- any job seeker on benefit,
- young people aged 15-20 years old, who are not eligible for income support but who are registered with Centrelink as a job seeker, and
- Return to Work programme participants

Geographical Coverage: National
The objective of the Language, Literacy and Numeracy Programme is to improve job seekers' English language, literacy and numeracy skills to assist them in securing sustainable employment or to participate in further education and training. Gains in language, literacy and numeracy skills also improve the quality of participants' daily lives.

The LLNP provides basic English language, literacy and numeracy training and advanced English language training. Face to face training is available from over 330 locations around Australia. For those job seekers with carer responsibilities or who are unable to access a face to face provider, training can be undertaken anywhere in Australia by distance education.

For job seekers subject to Mutual Obligation arrangements, participation in the LLNP satisfies Mutual Obligation requirements.

Training can be undertaken on a part-time or full-time basis, between 6 and 20 hours a week. Job seekers are allocated up to 400 hours of training, some of which can be undertaken on a one-to-one basis or in groups of two or three people.

Target Group: Job seekers aged 15 to 64 years who are in one of the eligible categories below and whose language, literacy and numeracy skills are below the level considered necessary to gain a job.

Job seekers aged 15 to 20 can access this assistance if they are registered with Centrelink as looking for work - there is no need to be in receipt of a payment from Centrelink.

Job seekers over 21 need to be in receipt of Youth Allowance, Newstart Allowance, Disability Support Pension or Parenting Payment or participating in a Community Development Employment Project to access the assistance.

Migrants who are subject to the two year waiting period or holders of one of the temporary or provisional visa subclasses: 309, 310, 445, 450, 820, 826, 850, 437, 781, 783 and 784 can access basic English language training.

In addition, job seekers whose first language is not English and who are citizens or permanent residents or holders of any of the above visa subclasses can access advanced English language training, irrespective of whether they are on income support.

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
Director
Literacy and Numeracy Section
Ph: (02) 6240 5936
Mentoring of Year 8, 9 and 10 Indigenous students

Formation of one-on-one relationships between a mentor and student with the view to fostering a caring and supportive relationship; encouraging students to achieve their fullest potential; and helping students develop their own individual vision for the future.

Target Group: Indigenous students in Years 8, 9 and 10
Coverage: National.
Timeframe: January 2000 to June 2003
Contact: Branch Manager
    Indigenous Programme Delivery Branch
    Ph: (02) 6240 5055

Responsible Agency: Department of Education, Science and Training

National Indigenous English Literacy and Numeracy Programme (NIELNS)

The objective of the National Indigenous English Literacy and Numeracy Strategy is to achieve English literacy and numeracy for Indigenous students at levels comparable to those achieved by other young Australians.

The strategy acknowledges that extra effort is required by education providers for Indigenous students to be successful and aims to address six key elements:

- Achieving Attendance
- Overcoming Hearing, Health and Nutrition Problems
- Preschooling Experiences
- Getting Good Teachers
- Using the Best Teaching Methods
- Measuring Success, Achieving Accountability

Under the NIELNS, DEST funds a range of projects that provide personalised support, community learning environments, and vocational learning experiences to young Indigenous people who are at risk of disconnection or who have become disconnected. Some initiatives focus specifically on the issue of literacy and/or numeracy whilst others seek to improve educational outcomes via other means such as increasing attendance rates, involving parents and the community, addressing health issues and mentoring.

Target Group: Indigenous Young People
Coverage: National
Timeframe: 2000 to 2004
Contact: Branch Manager
    Indigenous Programme Delivery Branch
    Ph: (02) 6240 5055

Website: [www.dest.gov.au/schools/indigenous/nielns.htm](http://www.dest.gov.au/schools/indigenous/nielns.htm)

ECEF - WADU Indigenous Youth Partnerships Initiatives

The Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST) has provided funding to the Enterprise and Career Education Foundation (ECEF) to manage and deliver the Wadu Indigenous Youth Partnership Initiative (IYPI) from June 2000 to the end of 2002. IYPI builds onto ECEF's existing Wadu strategy.
Wadu IYPI is addressing young Indigenous people's relative disadvantage in education, training and employment. This involves a 'whole of community' approach to supporting Indigenous youth to remain at or return to school, and provides a reliable pathway from schooling to training and employment and onto independence. IYPI complements and forms part of the broader Federal Government's National Indigenous English Literacy and Numeracy Strategy.

To May 2002, twenty IYPI projects had been run nation-wide with the two most recent additions being in the Cape York and Newcastle regions under a model of collaboration between ECEF, DEST, the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR), Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC), Family and Community Services (FaCS) and the Department of Health and Ageing.

Target Group: Indigenous Young People
Coverage: National
Timeframe: June 2000 - December 2002
Contact: Branch Manager
Indigenous Policy Development and Co-ordination Branch
Ph: (02) 6240 7720
Responsible Agency: Department of Education, Science and Training through the Enterprise and Career Education Foundation

**Australians Working Together - Indigenous Education and Training**

Under Australians Working Together, DEST will consult with ECEF regarding the development of projects to encourage increased vocational learning opportunities for Indigenous secondary school students.

Target Group: Indigenous Young People
Coverage: National
Timeframe:
Contact: Branch Manager
Indigenous Policy Development and Co-ordination Branch
Ph: (02) 6240 7720
Responsible Agency: Department of Education, Science and Training

**Australians Working Together - Working Together for Indigenous Youth**

Under the Commonwealth Government's Australians Working Together package funding has been allocated to the Working Together for Indigenous Youth initiative to provide specific support for Indigenous students to stay on to complete year 12 or move into further education, training or paid employment.

Working Together for Indigenous Youth provides a national framework for the promotion and ongoing operations of local partnerships between key stakeholders in Indigenous education. The overarching goals and guiding principles for this initiative are encompassed in the following five key elements:

- working together in partnership;
- local commitment and ownership;
- effective intervention strategies;
- effective funding arrangements; and
- measuring success and achieving accountability.
**Indigenous Ambassadors Programme**

Under the National Indigenous English Literacy and Numeracy Strategy, the Indigenous Ambassadors Programme promotes the importance of education, literacy and numeracy to Indigenous students, their parents and teachers. Ambassadors are involved in a range of targeted activities, across all sectors of education and community groups, to impart knowledge and understanding of the issues facing Indigenous students and the barriers to their education.

**Target Group:** Indigenous Young People

**Coverage:** National

**Timeframe:** Ongoing

**Contact:** Branch Manager
Indigenous Programme Delivery Branch
Ph: (02) 6240 5055

**Website:** [www.dest.gov.au/schools/indigenous/ambassadors.htm](http://www.dest.gov.au/schools/indigenous/ambassadors.htm)

**Responsible Agency:** Department of Education, Science and Training

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**Career and Transition (CATS) Pilots**

During the 2002 school year, twenty three Career and Transition Pilot (CATS) projects across Australia are exploring methodologies for and testing ways to enhance career and transition support to young people aged 13-19 years. The pilot projects will offer improved career and transition information, support, guidance and advice and will include the development of individual learning pathways plans focusing on young peoples transitions through school and from school to further education, training and work, prepared with the support of dedicated Transition Advisors. Local partnerships between schools, the community, government and industry as well as links with families are an integral part of these projects.

The CAT projects have been developed as part of the Government's response to the Youth Pathways Action Plan Taskforce's Report Footprints to the Future, in particular to recommendations 4,5 and 6.

The Career and Transition (CAT) Pilots contain four major components:

- Community Partnership Committees;
- dedicated Career and Transition Advisers;
- Learning Pathways Plans for young people aged 13 - 19; and
- testing ways of tracking the transitions of young people for 18 months post school

**Target Group:** Young people aged 13-19

**Geographical Coverage:** 23 projects will operate across a variety if setting in
metropolitan, regional and remote areas of Australia.

Timeframe: 12 months from April 2002

Contact details:
Director
Transition Partnerships Section
Enterprise and Career Education Branch
Department of Education, Science and Training

Responsible Agency: Department of Education, Science and Training

**Stronger Families and Communities Strategy**

The Stronger Families and Communities Strategy is a program intended to strengthen local communities and families through a range of linked initiatives. Youth are targeted under the Strategy, particularly through the following measures:

- the Potential Leaders in Local Communities initiative aims to develop skills, opportunities and support for potential community leaders, including helping young people to become leaders amongst their peers and future community leaders;
- the Local Solutions to Local Problems initiative helps communities to develop their own responses to local issues and in the process increase their capacity to deal with similar or other issues in the future. This could include engaging young people in the community by providing access to facilities or resources, helping young people to access support and information or helping young people in educational environments;
- young mothers can also benefit from the Stronger Families Fund which encourages coordination and integration of local services to help communities to find new ways to strengthen families, focusing on early childhood development and effective parenting; and
- the Early Intervention Parenting and Family Relationship Support initiative can also benefit young parents through parenting skills education and playgroups, as well as help young people experiencing family conflict through family counselling.

53 projects directly benefit young people. These projects have been funded under the Potential Leaders initiative (19 projects), the Local Solutions initiative (16 projects) and Early Intervention Parenting and Family Relationship Support (11 projects). The 53 projects also include 6 projects of national significance.

Target Group: Families and communities generally; youth are targeted as described above.

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Community Branch, FaCS
Phone: 02 6212 9159


Responsible Agency: Family and Community Services

**Youth Allowance**

Youth Allowance is a payment for young Australians who are studying, undertaking training, looking for work, or who are temporarily incapacitated. Youth Allowance allows young people to move between job seeking, undertaking full or part-time
Young people who claim the Independent rate of Youth Allowance on the basis that it is unreasonable to live at home, are assessed by Centrelink Social Workers. Where necessary, the Social Workers provide ongoing assistance and referrals to other support programs such as Reconnect and JPET as well as assistance in formulating appropriate Preparing for Work Agreements.

**Target Group:** Full and part-time students and job seekers aged 15-24

**Coverage:** National

**Timeframe:** Ongoing

**Contact details:**
Assistant Secretary
Youth Bureau, Programs Branch, FaCS
Ph: 02 62129437
facs.internet@facs.gov.au


**Responsible Agency:** Family and Community Services

**'Reconnect' (formerly Youth Homelessness Early Intervention Program)**

Reconnect provides early intervention support to young people aged 12 to 18 who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and their families. The objectives of Reconnect is to improve the level of engagement of homeless young people, or those at risk of homelessness, with family, work, education, training and the community. As at March 2002, 93 Reconnect services are operating nationally and a further 7 are being established through community development processes. This will bring the total number of Reconnect services to 100.

Six Reconnect services specifically focus on Indigenous young people, their families and communities. The Department is working with an additional seven Indigenous communities in remote, rural and metropolitan areas to establish specific services to address the needs of local young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their families.

**Target Group:** Young people aged 12 to 18 who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and their families

**Coverage:** National

**Timeframe:** Ongoing

**Contact details:**
Assistant Secretary
Youth Bureau, Programs Branch, FaCS
Ph: 02 62129437
facs.internet@facs.gov.au

**Website:** [www.facs.gov.au](http://www.facs.gov.au)

**Responsible Agency:** Family and Community Services

**Youth Activities Services Program**

The Youth Activities Services Program consists of Youth Activities Services (YAS) and YAS Family Liaison Workers (FLW.)

The YAS provide activities, generally after school, to adolescents living in disadvantaged areas. The YAS program supports young people and their families
through offering positive peer support and creative and challenging alternatives to activities that place young people at risk. The program helps to prevent young people from developing and continuing with patterns of behaviour that place them at risk of disconnecting from their families and community and which may have long term effects on their family relationships, schooling and labour force participation.

The FLW program supports young people and their families by helping them deal with issues affecting their well being as a family through offering positive practical support and guidance. The FLW fills an identified service gap between YAS and other intensive support and counselling services currently available.

Target Group: Young people aged 11-16 years living in disadvantaged areas, who still live at home and attend school. 19 YAS/FLW services identify Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people as their target group.

Coverage: There are 90 YAS and 83 FLWs across Australia

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Youth Bureau, Programs Branch, FaCS
Ph: 02 62129437


Responsible Agency: Family and Community Services

**Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP)**
(Also addresses Recommendation 19 and 20)

SAAP is a joint Commonwealth and State/Territory program. 477 of its 1,238 services across Australia are tailored to supporting young people who are homeless or at risk of being homeless, providing transitional accommodation and/or related support services, aiming to achieve the maximum possible degree of self-reliance and independence. In 2000-01, approximately 37% of SAAP clients were aged 25 years and under. The most common reason given by young people (under 25) for seeking assistance was relationship/family breakdown. Children also enter SAAP services accompanying an adult.

Target Group: People who are homeless or at risk of being homeless

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Housing Support Branch, FaCS
Phone: 02 62129490
facs.internet@facs.gov.au


Responsible Agency: Family and Community Services

**National Homelessness Strategy - Demonstration Projects**

The National Homelessness Strategy provides approximately three million dollars over three years for demonstration projects that will prevent, reduce and respond to homelessness. The following projects specific to young people have been developed:
Information and education tools on youth homelessness market research project which aims to conduct market research that will be used to investigate the best form of an education resource on homelessness. The purpose of such as resource is to help teachers and community workers provide young people with a 'reality check' on the dangers of early home leaving and ways to strengthen their family relationships and resolve conflicts that can lead to a young person leaving home. Consultations commenced in March 2001. Findings are now being collated and analysed. The research has shown the need for a coordinated curriculum on life skills incorporating drug and alcohol, mental health, youth suicide and other issues as well as home leaving.

Young Offenders Support Program is providing funding to Western Australia and Tasmania to develop and trial strategies that support young people exiting detention, so as to prevent homelessness. The projects will work with juvenile justice agencies and other community services for young people, to develop referral protocols and coordinated service delivery, that meets the accommodation and support needs of young people, in the context of their family, community and social circumstances. While these projects are being piloted a project worker will document the action research and provide a comprehensive resource about what works and does not work in relation to preventing homelessness for young people exiting detention.

A project on the issues for young people exiting the care and protection system is currently under development.

Target Group: Families in housing distress, homeless people, young people, young people who have been in care; and people exiting institutional care.

Coverage: Findings from projects will be disseminated nationally.

Timeframe: Three years to 2004

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Housing Support Branch, FaCS
Phone: 02 62129490
facs.internet@facs.gov.au


Responsible Agency: Family and Community Services

Transition to Independent Living Allowance (TILA)

In recognition of the difficulties young people leaving care face when establishing independent living, the Commonwealth announced the Transition to Independent Living Allowance (TILA) in the 2001-02 Budget. TILA will be a one-off payment designed to assist young people leaving care with costs associated with the transition to independent living. TILA will not be subject to repayment. It is anticipated that States and Territories will administer TILA on the Commonwealth's behalf as part of a transition plan that will include access to a mentor. The Community Services Ministers' Advisory Council (CSMAC) Youth Working Group (YWG) was established to guide the future development of this initiative. The Commonwealth and the States and Territories are currently discussing administration and service delivery arrangements.

Target Group: Young people leaving state care

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing from March 2003

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Redevelopment of the Youth Protocol

The Protocol for the Case Management of Unsupported Young People (the Youth Protocol) has been in place since 1994. Since its inception, the Youth Protocol has helped to clarify the responsibilities of Commonwealth and State/Welfare agencies in relation to homeless young people. FaCS initiated the Youth Protocol re-examination process following agreement about the need to review the Youth Protocol at a meeting between Commonwealth and State/Territory Welfare departments on adolescents in state care, held in May 2000. 1363 protocol referrals were made during the period of January 2000 to December 2000.

- Findings from the re-examination point to a need for action on:
  - updating and renegotiating the content of the Youth Protocol to reflect changes at the State/Territory and Commonwealth level and improving its effectiveness;
  - reinvigorating and strengthening the structures and processes to support effective operation of the Youth Protocol; and
  - improving the capacity and responsiveness of the service delivery system, with more attention to collaborative approaches and flexible support options.
- The CSMAC Youth Working Group (YWG), comprising of nominated State and Territory and Commonwealth officials, will guide the redevelopment of the Protocol as outlined in the Terms of Reference for the YWG.
- The focus of the redevelopment is to address many of the issues identified through consultation as barriers for the effective operation of the Youth Protocol.
- Redevelopment will include work at both the bi- and multilateral level. In addition to this, a consultant will be appointed to pursue bilateral issues, including identification of existing pilots to inform good practice in the implementation of the Protocol.

Target Group: Unsupported young people under the age of 18 who are:

- under the statutory minimum school leaving age; or
- subject to Care and Protection Orders; or * above statutory minimum school leaving age, and are considered to be at risk of, or have been subjected to, abuse or violence

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Youth Bureau, Programs Branch, FaCS
Ph: 02 62129437
facs.internet@facs.gov.au
Website: www.facs.gov.au

Responsible Agency: Family and Community Services

The Mentor Marketplace

The goal of Mentor Marketplace is to assist young people realise their full potential.
by:

- connecting them to the working world and the concept of lifelong learning;
- stimulating a mentoring culture in business, schools and communities;
- kick-starting mentoring projects in higher-risk schools and communities; and
- engaging them in skill-sharing and peer-mentoring opportunities.

The Mentor Marketplace will complement existing programs being run primarily by the community sector (often in cooperation with business and only sometimes with government funding) and will consist of two elements:

i. a high profile national mentoring partnership which brings together and acknowledges existing mentoring projects; promotes good practice; facilitates an exchange of ideas, and funds research, workshops and conferences, and

ii. 'making mentoring happen', which involves kick-starting mentoring projects in communities and areas that do not currently have such projects operating for secondary students and early school-leavers and, in those communities that do have such projects, helping them grow.

On a service delivery level, the Commonwealth will work with key non-government organisations to implement this initiative. As part of this process, a consultative seminar was held in August 2001 with a number of non government agencies involved in mentoring, such as Dusseldorp, The Smith Family, BigHart, The Salvation Army, Bank of Ideas, to name only a few. It resulted in a range of ideas on what works well in mentoring and suggestions on the role the Government could most usefully play in delivering the Mentor Marketplace program.

Similar meetings with business are planned to be held over the coming months to forge closer cooperation with business in relation to youth issues and stimulate interest within business around mentoring in general and the Mentor Marketplace initiative in particular.

Target Group: Young people (The Mentor Marketplace aims to involve young people who need assistance to stay connected to family, education, training and the workplace.)

Coverage: National

Timeframe: 2002/03

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Youth Bureau, Programs Branch, FaCS
Ph: 02 62129437
facs.internet@facs.gov.au

Website: www.facs.gov.au

Responsible Agency: Family and Community Services

**Adolescent Mediation and Family Therapy (AMFT) Programme**

AMFT works with adolescents and their families or caregivers who are experiencing various levels of conflict and complex family difficulties that may lead to family breakdown and possibly youth homelessness. AMFT services are funded through the Family Relationships Services Program in Sydney; Wollongong; Wodonga, Vic; Melbourne; Gold Coast, Qld, Cairns, Qld; Brisbane, Qld; Adelaide, SA; Perth, WA, Hobart, Tas; Darwin, NT and ACT.

Target Group: Young people aged 11-25 years

Coverage: National
Collaborative Youth Services Trials

The Collaborative Youth Services Trials focus on service delivery to disconnected young people or those at risk of becoming disconnected. The purpose is to test the processes by which local needs are identified and collaborative approaches to the provision of existing, or new, services can be developed to meet those needs effectively.

Target Group: The target group is generally 12-25 years who are disconnected young people or those at risk of becoming disconnected. Individuals supported through these trials will be drawn from the following groups:

- Those with poor literacy/numeracy skills, learning difficulties or who have left school early;
- Indigenous Australians who are disconnected from education, training and employment opportunities;
- Those who are homeless;
- Those who are at-risk of becoming homeless;
- Those in contact with the juvenile justice system;
- Ex-offenders/those leaving detention;
- Refugees/recent migrants;
- Those in care (wards of the state/ex-wards/in foster care); and
- Those in rural/remote areas and who have limited education, training and employment opportunities.

Coverage: The localities involved are:

- Cape York (Queensland);
- Wide Bay/Burnett (Queensland);
- Cootamundra/Young (New South Wales);
- Playford (South Australia); and
- Footscray (Victoria).


Innovative and Collaborative Youth Servicing Pilots (ICYS)

The ICYS Pilot Projects will promote more effective collaboration among service providers at the local community level and encourage greater ownership and accountability by communities for initiatives designed to assist young people. Projects will be required to test avenues of cooperation between and across Commonwealth/State/local government policies and programmes and community initiatives in order to deliver more effective services and improved outcomes for
young people.

Target Group: Young people aged 12-25 are the target group for the pilots, although variation to the age range will be considered in response to local conditions.

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Youth Bureau, Programs Branch, FaCS
Ph: 02 62129437
facs.internet@facs.gov.au

Website: www.facs.gov.au

Coverage: Around 25 pilots in a variety of urban, rural and remote locations will be funded across Australia.

Timeframe: Pilots are planned to commence in May/June 2002

Responsible Agency: Family and Community Services

**Job Placement, Employment and Training Programme (JPET)**

JPET provides a holistic approach to assisting young people overcome problems preventing them from maintaining stable accommodation and entering into full-time education, training or employment.

JPET offers ongoing support and referral services to young people to help them overcome a range of problems, including housing, substance abuse, family difficulties, sexual or other abuse, lack of self esteem, income support, and other barriers to employment, education or training.

The most common strategies implemented across all target groups were personal support, job search assistance and training assistance. Income advocacy and financial assistance were also common strategies;

Target Group: JPET assists students and unemployed young people between 15-21 years who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless (with priority to be given to those aged 15-19 and to homeless young people). Assistance is also provided to young people who are/or have been wards of the State, are refugees or have been in the juvenile justice system.

Coverage: 136 agencies are contracted to deliver services throughout Australia

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Youth Bureau, Programs Branch, FaCS
Ph: 02 62129437

Website: http://jpet.facs.gov.au/

Responsible Agency: Family and Community Services

**Specialised Domestic Violence Services**

From 2001 eight Specialised Domestic Violence Services are being funded within the Family Relationships Services Programme, based on a pilot (introduced in 1995-96) of preventive approaches for relationships at risk of becoming violent, and intervention and referral models where violence is already occurring. Evaluation of the pilot projects indicated that many clients want to stay in their relationship but want the violence to stop.

One service is being established in each capital city and will provide integrated
One service is being established in each capital city and will provide integrated whole-of-family interventions to families (men, women and children) affected by domestic violence.

The services will offer support to victims of domestic violence, assist perpetrators to take responsibility for their violent behaviours, and support children who have been abused or have witnessed domestic violence.

Target Group: Families affected by domestic violence (men, women, adolescents and children)

Coverage: Capital cities

Timeframe: 2001 - Ongoing

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Family Relationships Branch FaCS
Phone: 02 62129173

Website: www.facs.gov.au/internet/facsinternet.nsf/family/frsp-main_types_frsp_services.htm

Responsible Agency: Family and Community Services

**Personal Support Programme**

The Personal Support Programme will provide funding to assist people who have multiple barriers to employment. The new programme will replace and expand the Community Support Programme (CSP) that is administered through the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations.

The Personal Support Programme will provide assistance to the most vulnerable job seekers, including people with barriers such as homelessness, drug and alcohol problems, psychological disorders and domestic violence problems.

Centrelink will refer people with significant non-vocational employment barriers to service providers funded under the programme. Service providers will provide them with assistance or link them to other government or community organisations that provide the sorts of help they need. By 2004-2005 the new programme will be assisting 45,000 people.

The new programme will help people to stabilise their circumstances and enable them to achieve outcomes that match their abilities and capacity. These will include social as well as economic outcomes. Participants will have up to two years of support and assistance in the Personal Support Programme.

For many participants, an appropriate outcome will be to transfer to Intensive Assistance to get help to find work. Others will undertake study or training or volunteer activities. For others with more severe barriers, the Personal Support Programme will help them to address their personal barriers (e.g., find stable accommodation, attend drug or alcohol or other counselling services) and increase their involvement in the community.

Target Group: People with non-vocational barriers to employment such as homelessness, drug and alcohol problems, psychological disorders and domestic violence problems.

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Family and Community Services
Australians Working Together

Australians Working Together - Helping people to move forward is a major package of initiatives offering significant support and services to help people to help themselves. Young job seekers will benefit from many Australians Working Together (AWT) initiatives announced in the 2001-02 Budget. Young people will also benefit from the improvements to employment services under AWT.

AWT builds on the Government's employment assistance and mutual obligation policies that have attracted widespread support amongst participants and the broader community.

The new system is providing improved personalised assessment and service, more opportunities for training and work experience, better incentives, and reasonable requirements for people to find work, increase their earnings or contribute to their communities.

Centrelink will be the gateway to the new system. Centrelink Personal Advisers will provide a high level of service to people needing additional help to overcome personal or other barriers.

Under AWT young people will have access to more places in Literacy and Numeracy Training, Job Search Training, and Work for the Dole and can earn Training Credits by participating in Work for the Dole and Community Work. Vulnerable and at risk young people will benefit from the better assessment processes in Intensive Assistance and the linkages between Intensive Assistance and other programmes. Young people will also benefit from other initiatives such as the Working Credit (which encourages people on income support to take up full-time, substantial part-time or casual work) and the new Personal Support Programme (designed to help people with problems such as homelessness, and drug and alcohol addiction) that replaces the Community Support Programme.

Coverage: National

Timeframe: July 2001 - June 2005

Contact details: together@dewrsb.gov.au

Initiative Website address: http://www.together.gov.au/

Responsible Agency: Shared policy responsibility between Family and Community Services, Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, and Department of Education, Science and Training

Parent Liaison Service

The Parent Liaison Service is a service provided by Centrelink that allows parents to speak to a Centrelink Social Worker about any concerns or issues they may have about their son or daughter leaving home and claiming the independent rate (unreasonable to live at home) of Youth Allowance.

Where appropriate, parents of young people who claim that it is unreasonable for them to live at home, are sent a brochure advising them of the Parent Liaison Service. The service is provided by Centrelink’s Call Centre Social Workers through a 13 number.

Target Group: Parents
A Youth Servicing Strategy for Centrelink

The Youth Servicing Strategy for Centrelink has been developed in partnership with the Department of Education, Science and Training; Department of Family and Community Services, Department of Workplace Relations and Centrelink as part of the Government's response to the Footprints to the Future report. The Strategy will respond to: the need for holistic outcomes for young people; breaching; increased participation in education and training; welfare dependency through early intervention strategies; adequate support for youth at risk; and fostering collaborative partnerships within the youth service sector. Elements of the Strategy are already being progressed but it is expected that the national implementation of the Strategy will be rolled out to the network from 1 July 2002.

Target Group: Youth
Coverage: National
Timeframe: Ongoing
Contact details:
National Manager
Youth and Student Community Segment
Centrelink
Ph: 02 6244 6269
Website: www.centrelink.gov.au/
Responsible Agency: Centrelink

Centrelink National Student Services Partnership Group

The Centrelink National Student Services Partnership Group seeks to facilitate key stakeholders from the education and community sectors, as well as the student population, to work together in partnership to improve service delivery for students. Its role is to provide advice to, and work together with, Centrelink on all aspects of service to student customers, including:

- the quality and effectiveness of service provided by Centrelink
- the impact of new and existing policies/legislation on customer service
- future service delivery developments including online initiatives, and
- opportunities to build partnerships with a view to providing a comprehensive, integrated, high quality service to student customers across Australia.

Target Group: Service providers, youth and educational institutions
Coverage: National
Timeframe: Ongoing (bi-annual meetings)
**Contact details:**
National Manager  
Youth and Student Community Segment  
Centrelink  
Ph: 02 6244 6269  
Website: [www.centrelink.gov.au/](http://www.centrelink.gov.au/)

**Responsible Agency:** Centrelink

**Centrelink National Partnership Group for Young Job Seekers and At Risk Young People**

With similar terms of reference as the Partnership Group on Student Services this group comprises key national and state service providers/stakeholders who have a keen interest in young job seekers and young people at risk, e.g. Mission Australia, Youth Action and Policy Association, St. Vincent de Paul, a JPET and Reconnect provider, as well as state government representatives.

**Target Group:** Service providers, researchers and youth  

**Coverage:** National  

**Timeframe:** Ongoing (bi-annual meetings)

**Contact details:**
National Manager  
Youth and Student Community Segment  
Centrelink  
Ph: 02 6244 6269  
Website: [www.centrelink.gov.au/](http://www.centrelink.gov.au/)

**Responsible Agency:** Centrelink

**Centrelink Flexible Preparing for Work Agreements for at risk young people under 18 years**

Centrelink has established procedures for developing Preparing For Work Agreements for youth under 18 at risk of disconnecting from mainstream society. Guidelines have been developed which will ensure that PFWAs for young people develop appropriate activities to maintain income support, accommodate their personal circumstances and minimise their chances of being breached eg finding suitable accommodation, drug and alcohol education. This was implemented in November 2000.

**Target Group:** Homeless/At risk  

**Coverage:** National  

**Timeframe:** Ongoing

**Contact details:**
National Manager  
Youth and Student Community Segment  
Centrelink  
Ph: 02 6244 6269  
Website: [www.centrelink.gov.au/](http://www.centrelink.gov.au/)

**Responsible Agency:** Centrelink

**Breaching rules change to protect the vulnerable**
A number of significant changes to the Government's breaching rules to help vulnerable job seekers; The Government has been working on a range of measures over the last year to ensure that breaches are not imposed without good reason. The announcement will mean that from 1 July 2002:

- Centrelink will be able to temporarily suspend payments when a job seeker has failed to meet their obligations and cannot be contacted rather than breaching them.
- Broadening the breach waiver provisions. People on Newstart can already have an activity test breach penalty waived if they start Work for the Dole or an activity under the Community Support Program, soon to be the Personal Support Program. Under the new system, people who start a rehabilitation program through the Commonwealth Rehabilitation Service or formal vocational training as part of a specified labour market program will also be able to have their activity test breach waived.
- Reducing penalties for failing to attend an interview without a reasonable excuse. This will become an administrative breach rather than an activity test breach, thereby attracting the lesser penalty of a 16 per cent reduction of payments for 13 weeks instead of an 18 per cent reduction for 26 weeks.
- Closer monitoring of the 'Preparing for Work Agreements'. Currently, when a person agrees to undertake a particular activity under a Preparing for Work Agreement there is not always a formal mechanism for following up on the success or otherwise of the activity. Centrelink will now have more time with individual job seekers to review what they have done, look at their personal circumstances and any obstacles to participation, and to plan follow-up activities to give job seekers the best chance of finding a job or further improving their employment prospects.

Target Group: At risk young people

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
National Manager
Youth and Student Community Segment
Centrelink
Ph: 02 6244 6269

Website: www.centrelink.gov.au/

Responsible Agency: Family and Community Services and Centrelink

**Centrelink Second Breach Intervention pilots**

This strategy, currently in place as a pilot from August 2001, occurs after the imposition of a second breach. At this time, the customer is called in for an interview aimed at identifying any factors that may be contributing to the likelihood of a subsequent breach. The obligations of the customer are reinforced at this interview and measures may be taken to prevent them incurring further breach penalties. Specialist officers will also assist if required. The Pilot is currently being evaluated with a final report due to be released in June 2002. This report will include recommendations about which elements of the pilot should be rolled out across the network at a time to be decided.

Target Group: Homeless/At risk

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing
**Centrelink Third Breach Alert**

The Centrelink 'Third Breach Alert' commenced on a national basis in June 2001 and is activated when a third breach for a customer is being considered. At this time, consultation with a specialist officer (eg. Social Worker or Occupational Psychologist) takes place to consider whether the customer has any special needs or may lack the capacity to comply with their mutual obligation requirements. It is part of Centrelink's move to improve staffs' ability to identify those who are most at risk of being breached and allows more opportunity to help customers understand and comply with their obligations. Updated training materials have been developed and distributed to Centrelink staff.

Target Group: Homeless/At risk

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
National Manager
Youth and Student Community Segment
Centrelink
Ph: 02 6244 6269

Website: [www.centrelink.gov.au/](http://www.centrelink.gov.au/)

Responsible Agency: Family and Community Services and Centrelink

**Centrelink Truancy Project**

In seven high schools across South West Sydney, Centrelink has implemented a Truancy project aimed at Secondary students receiving Youth Allowance who are at risk of becoming early school leavers due to poor attendance. Students with poor attendance patterns are required to attend a workshop conducted during school hours by Centrelink and a school representative. Early results from this project have seen significant reductions in absenteeism.

Target Group: Youth

Coverage: Local

Timeframe: Ongoing subject to resources

Contact details:
National Manager
Youth and Student Community Segment
Centrelink
Ph: 02 6244 6269

Website: [www.centrelink.gov.au/](http://www.centrelink.gov.au/)

Responsible Agency: Centrelink

**Centrelink’s Linking Opportunities Through Indigenous Education (LOTIE)**
This program addresses low school retention rates amongst indigenous young people. It provides information to Indigenous school students about the importance of attending school regularly and how the Local, State and Federal Departments can assist individuals and families whilst at school and during their transition into employment or further education. Aboriginal Elders from the student's local community contribute to the program.

Target Group: Indigenous youth

Coverage: Local Community

Timeframe: Ongoing subject to resources

Contact details:
National Manager
Youth and Student Community Segment
Centrelink
Ph: 02 6244 6269

Website: www.centrelink.gov.au/

Responsible Agency: Centrelink

**Job Network - Intensive Assistance**

Intensive Assistance provides individually tailored assistance and support to get long term unemployed people, or those at risk of becoming long term unemployed, into jobs. Job Network members have the flexibility to decide with a young person the best form of assistance to get them a job or to assist them to return to education or take up training. This may include the provider using their fees to provide vocational training, language and literacy training or employer incentives such as a wage subsidy or workplace adjustments. Currently, services are provided for between 12 and 15 months depending on the level of job seeker disadvantage, with a provision to negotiate an extension of up to 6 months. From July 2002, under Australians Working Together (AWT), the period of Intensive Assistance will be up to twelve months for all job seekers except those who are referred to Intensive Assistance immediately following participation in the new Personal Support Programme. These job seekers will receive up to 18 months of Intensive Assistance.

Job Network members are contracted to provide services to all eligible job seekers including eligible young people (called a "generalist service"). Specialist Intensive Assistance services cater to the needs of a number of different groups. There are three specialist youth providers operating from 11 sites in NSW, Victoria, Queensland and Western Australia.

In general, the focus of Intensive Assistance and its regime of outcome payments is on getting job seekers into employment. However, in line with the government’s concern that young people should be encouraged to complete Year 12, Job Network members providing Intensive Assistance are eligible to claim a full outcome payment if they assist a young person 15 to 20 years of age who has not completed Year 12 or equivalent, to complete two semesters of an eligible education or training course.

Under Australians Working Together, Intensive Assistance providers will have the flexibility to refer job seekers to beneficial complementary programmes before commencing Intensive Assistance eg, Work for the Dole, the new Personal Support Programme or to Literacy/Numeracy training.

Young people form part of many groups, such as parents, Indigenous Australians, people with disabilities and special needs, who have been specifically targeted in AWT. Young people will have access to the same resources as other members of these key target groups, including access to Personal Advisers. Young people, like other unemployed people, will benefit from employment services initiatives contained
in Australians Working Together. From 1 July 2002, for example, they will have access to more places in Job Search Training, and if eligible, Training Credits in Work for the Dole and community work.

Target Group: Long term unemployed people, or those at risk of becoming long term unemployed.

Coverage: Intensive Assistance is offered from more than 1,100 sites nationally

Timeframe: Ongoing

Website: www.dewr.gov.au

Responsible Agency: Department of Employment and Workplace Relations

**Indigenous Employment**

The Indigenous Employment Policy (IEP) was introduced in 1999 in response to concerns about the high indigenous unemployment rate and the particular disadvantage experienced by Indigenous clients in the labour market. There are three main elements to the Indigenous Employment Policy - the Indigenous Employment Programme, the Indigenous Small Business Fund and assistance for indigenous job seekers through Job Network. The Indigenous Employment Programme has a number of elements including, the Corporate Leaders for Indigenous Employment Project, the Structured Training and Employment Projects (STEP), the National Indigenous Cadetship Project and Wage Assistance, that provide flexible financial assistance to employers to assist in achieving sustainable employment outcomes for Indigenous Australians. A particular focus of the policy is to target jobs in the private sector. The IEP makes a positive contribution to getting more Indigenous youth into jobs.

Currently, there are no specific participation targets for young Indigenous job seekers in the IEP however, indigenous youth (under 24 years of age) accounted for 49% of placements made under indigenous employment programmes from 1 April 2001 to 30 March 2002. Given the particular demographic profile of Indigenous Australians in which the median age is 19 years (compared to 35 for the total Australian population) the Government is conscious of the emerging issue of increasing demand for targeted employment assistance for indigenous youth. Partnerships between the Departments of Employment and Workplace Relations and Education, Science and Training are being strengthened to further improve the coordination and delivery of assistance to indigenous youth.

Under the *Australians Working Together package*, indigenous job seekers will get more personalised help from Centrelink, Job Network Members, Community Work Coordinators and other providers. The first Indigenous Employment Centres (IECs), announced as part of *Australians Working Together*, have commenced operation and more will commence from 1 July 2002. Under this initiative, Community Development Employment Project (CDEP) organisations may be contracted to take on the additional role of IECs, providing further help to indigenous people in areas where job opportunities exist to obtain work. By 2004-05, IECs will have provided job search support, work experience, access to accredited training, and ongoing mentoring and support to up to 10,000 CDEP participants. By working with local employers and Job Network members, the IECs will encourage people to find work and help them retain it. This initiative, developed in consultation with ATSIC, complements the successful IEP.

Many existing programmes are being expanded or changed to provide more individual help. There will be greater support for job seekers to work or to take part in their community or to do work experience or training. They will keep more income if they do casual or part-time work. Indigenous job seekers (including young job seekers) in Job Search Training and Intensive Assistance will be able to access a training account to gain work-related skills. Under AWT, there will be more practical ways to promote self-reliance for indigenous people.
Ways to promote self-reliance for Indigenous people.

Target Group: Indigenous job seekers
Coverage: National
Timeframe: Ongoing
Website: www.dewr.gov.au

Responsible Agency: Department of Employment and Workplace Relations

National Divisions Youth Alliance (NDYA)

The NDYA is a network of over 70 Divisions of General Practice and individual general practitioners with an interest in youth health, coordinated through the Australian Divisions of General Practice (ADGP). NDYA aims to work in partnership with GPs, Divisions of General Practice, young people and other stakeholders, to support general practice to improve health outcomes for young people. Key activities include: * raising the profile of youth health within general practice; * collating and disseminating information about youth health programs and activities; * developing partnerships at national, state and local levels; and * the development of best practice guidelines for the delivery and evaluation of youth health services. The NDYA website will ensure the accessibility of NDYA information throughout Australia. It is anticipated that the work of the NDYA will assist in making primary health care services more accessible to young people.

Target Group: Young people, GPs, Divisions of General Practice
Coverage: National
Timeframe: 2001 - 2004

Contact details:
Program Coordinator
National Divisions Youth Alliance
Australian Divisions of General Practice
Ph: 02 6251 0855

Website: http://ndya.adgp.com.au/site/index.cfm

Responsible Agency: Department of Health and Ageing

National Mental Health Strategy (NMHS) - Kids Help Line
(also addresses Recommendation 17)

Kids Help Line provides a national telephone counselling service for young people aged 5 to 18 years. The non-government, free, anonymous and confidential service aims to:

- provide a professional counselling service accessible to all Australian children and young people;
- empower the caller by assisting them to form opinions for themselves;
- help children identify and understand the consequences of a particular course of action;
- facilitate more productive relationships with parents, teachers and care givers;
- fill in the gaps in existing services;
- provide information on support services in the caller's local area;
- advocate on behalf of children where their interests are ignored or unrepresented.

Target Group: All children and young people aged 5 to 18 years.
Coverage: National
MindMatters is a mental health promotion program for all Australian secondary schools (2000-2003). The program recognises that the mental and emotional health and well-being of young people is fundamental to their academic, vocational and social competence. The program was developed to enhance school environments where young people feel safe, valued, engaged and purposeful. It provides a range of teaching resources, supported by professional development activities and a website. The program also helps schools develop strong links with counselling and support services in the community. Progress on the project to date includes:

- all secondary schools in each State and Territory of Australia have received a brochure offering the program.
- over 50% of secondary schools around the nation have requested their free copy of the Resources Kit
- professional development activities have been conducted in capital cities and regional centres in every State and Territory, with high attendance from teachers and non-school organisations
- significant support for the Indigenous component of the program has been given by health and education Indigenous organisations, including a whole school resource addressing cultural diversity
- the website cms.curriculum.edu.au/mindmatters has an average of 300 hits per month.

**StudentMatters** will complement MindMatters and aims to improve referral and service provision for high-risk students in MindMatters schools. This initiative aims to develop a strategy that will help interested MindMatters schools to work more effectively with at risk students.

**ParentMatters** aims to ensure that parents in MindMatters schools are able to effectively participate in parenting and supporting their adolescent children, including when treatment for mental health problems is required. Work on this program is about to commence.

**CommunityMatters** is a key component of the Indigenous strategy of MindMatters, CommunityMatters is a whole school resource that addresses cultural diversity, addressing issues such as community, culture, identity and wellbeing.

Target Group: Young people and young adults and their parents.

Coverage: National

Timeframe: 2000-2003

Contact Details:
Director
Co-ordination & Management Unit
Mental Health and Special Programs Branch
National Suicide Prevention Strategy - Reach Out!
(also addresses Recommendation 17)

Reach Out! (http://www.reachout.asn.au/home.jsp) is an initiative of the Inspire Foundation, and is a web-based service to assist young people going through difficult times. The purpose of the Reach Out! Website is to assist young people, their families, friends and the general community in contact with young people going through difficult times, to gain information, self-referral and general support through a youth-oriented medium.

Reach Out! averages in excess of 30,000 visitors each month (unique user sessions), with each person spending an average of 12-15 minutes in Reach Out! each visit.

Reach Out! also run RORRT (Reachout! Rural and Remote Tour) involving touring rural Australia and encouraging young people to express themselves and to constructively discuss mental health and suicide prevention issues utilizing the Reach Out! Internet medium.

Target Group: Young people, young adults, their family and friends

Coverage: National


Contact Details:
Director
Co-ordination & Management Unit
Mental Health and Special Programs Branch
Department of Health and Ageing
Ph: (02) 6289 1555

Website: http://www.reachout.asn.au/home.jsp

Responsible Agency: Department of Health and Ageing

National Illicit Drugs Strategy (NIDS)
(also addresses Recommendations 17 and 20)

The purpose of NIDS is to assist in preventing and reducing the use of illicit substances through a balanced package of measures aimed at reducing the supply of, and demand for, illicit drugs. Key demand reduction initiatives under NIDS include:

1. National Illicit Drugs Campaign (NIDC)
   Purpose: As a component of NIDS, NIDC is a comprehensive community education and information strategy, divided into two parts: 1) an information strategy to meet needs of parents, carers and the broader community, and 2) targeted strategies relating to reach youth. The first phase aims to enhance parents' and carers' skills in communicating with children about illicit drugs in order to deter the initiation or continuation of drug use by children.

   Target Group: Parents, carers, the community (Part 1) and young people in general and those at risk of drug use (Part 2).
2. Community Partnerships Initiative

Purpose: To encourage quality practice in community action to prevent illicit drug use and to build on existing activity occurring across Australia. It is expected that the outcomes will contribute to the prevention and reduction of illicit substance use by young people, by mobilising communities and fostering relationships between government and the broader community. The future emphasis of the program will be placed on community-driven prevention initiatives with the potential to generate improved individual, family and community resilience and well being, including reduced drug related risk and harm.

Target Group: The focus is young people but includes action involving other individuals and groups in the community who interact with young people in their social environments. Future focus will be on illicit drug specific prevention initiatives towards community activities directed at the early childhood and adolescent years that build resilience.

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Drug Strategy and Health Promotion Branch
Department of Health and Ageing
nationaldrugstrategy@health.gov.au

Website: www.nationaldrugstrategy.gov.au

3. Schools Drug Education Strategy

Refer to entry under Department of Education, Science and Training.

4. NGO Treatment Grants Program

Funding has been provided under the Non-Government Organisation Treatment Grants Program to build capacity of NGO services and to improve treatment outcomes by a) expanding and upgrading current NGO treatment services, and b) establishing and operating new treatment services for users of illicit drugs, with an emphasis on filling gaps (geographic, target group) in the coverage of existing treatment services.

Target Group: Users of illicit drugs

Coverage: National

Timeframe: In December 2001 the Minister for Health announced an allocation of $61.6 million to continue the NGO Treatment Grants Program.

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Drug Strategy and Health Promotion Branch
Medicare

Young people are entitled to hold their own Medicare card from the age of 15 years and consequently, are able to obtain independent access to health services. Australia's health care system provides universal access to quality care at reasonable cost through the provision of medical and pharmaceutical benefits, other funding of general practitioner programs and funding agreements with State and Territories for public hospital services.

Target Group: All Australians

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible Agency: Department of Health and Ageing


The National HIV/AIDS Strategy provides a framework for Australia's national response to HIV/AIDS, and is integrated with other strategies including the National Indigenous Australians' Sexual Health Strategy and the National Drug Strategy.

The following resources have been developed to provide young people with the information and learning opportunities they need in order to make healthy decisions and reduce their exposure to harm. Funding has been provided for a number of projects, including:

- Talking Sexual Health, a parents' guide to discussing sexual health matters with their children;
- the Keep it Simple Guide to Safe Sex, an information booklet for young people; and
- a Talking Sexual Health National Framework document and Professional Development resource, developed to assist secondary schools with the provision of education relating to sexually transmissible infections, HIV/AIDS and other blood borne viruses;
- a low literacy resource for young people who may be contemplating drug use and a "Close Shaves" comic for young people; and
- Blood Rules, OK, an education kit for sporting organisations.

Target Group: While the current National HIV/AIDS strategy does not specifically identify young people as a priority population group, it notes that young people may sometimes be at relatively high risk of infection. They may also form part of one or more of the priority groups, and they will have specific HIV/AIDS prevention, education and health promotion needs, including those that will be best met within school settings.

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Five years to 2003-04

National Mental Health Strategy (NMHS) - Mental Health Information Materials

A number of information resources have been produced aimed at the general community to address the high level of misunderstanding about mental health problems and reduce the stigma surrounding mental illness. These resources include:

- Tips for parents - a series of booklets to help parents understand the sleeping patterns of babies, deal with tantrums, help children cope with change, and communicate with teenagers;
- Growing up with young people - a booklet for parents of older teenagers and young adults. The booklet is available in English, Vietnamese and Chinese and has been adapted for Indigenous Australians;
- Two brochures on children and young people's mental health: - Challenging Behaviours; - Supporting parents and families: the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people; and
- A series of brochures on mental illness.

Target Group: Parents and young people

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact Details:
Director Co-ordination & Management Unit
Mental Health and Special Programs Branch
Department of Health and Ageing
Ph: (02) 6289 1555

Website: www.mentalhealth.gov.au

Responsible Agency: Department of Health and Ageing

National Drug Strategic Framework (NDSF) 1998-99 to 2002-03 Building Partnerships

The objectives of the NDSF are to improve health, social and economic outcomes by preventing the uptake of harmful drugs use and reducing harmful effects of licit and illicit drugs in Australian society. The Framework recognises the vital role of families and communities in the development of attitudes to and values concerning drug use. A number of key initiatives focusing on young people and targeting families and parents are funded under the NDSF, including:

1. **National Illicit Drugs Strategy (NIDS)**

   To assist in preventing and reducing the use of illicit substances through a balanced package of measures aimed at reducing the supply of, and demand for, illicit drugs. See separate paper for an outline of key demand reduction initiatives under NIDS.

   Contact details:
   Assistant Secretary
   Drug Strategy and Health Promotion Branch
   Department of Health and Ageing
   nationaldrugstrategy@health.gov.au

   Website: www.nationaldrugstrategy.gov.au

2. **National Tobacco Strategy (1999 to 2002-03)**

   To provide a comprehensive and multi-variate approach and national collaborative effort to improve the health of all Australians by eliminating...
or reducing their exposure to tobacco. It aims to improve on the effectiveness and efficiency of tobacco control in Australia and continue to expand upon the collaborative partnerships achieved by the National Tobacco Campaign which began in 1997. The strategy links with other relevant national strategies and expands on current initiatives at a State/Territory and Commonwealth government level and in the non-government sector.

Target Group: All Australians but the strategy acknowledges that children and young people under the age of 18 and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are at particular risk of harm due to smoking or tobacco exposure, warranting targeted action.

Coverage: National
Timeframe: 1999 to 2002-03
Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Drug Strategy and Health Promotion Branch
Department of Health and Ageing
nationaldrugstrategy@health.gov.au
Website: www.nationaldrugstrategy.gov.au

3. National Youth Alcohol Campaign

To assist all sections of the community, in particular young people, to develop attitudes and behaviour enabling them to minimise and, if possible, avoid alcohol-related harm. The campaign focuses on young peoples’ drinking behaviours and associated information and support for parents. Campaign material includes print resources, television commercials, newspaper and magazine advertisements and an Internet site as well as material for parents of Non-English Speaking Backgrounds (NESB) and indigenous young people.

Target Group: Primary target audience is youth aged 15-17 years old. The secondary target audience includes parents of children aged 12-17 and 18-24 years old.

Coverage: National
Timeframe: 1999-2000 to 2000-01
Contact details:
Director
Population Health Social Marketing
Department of Health and Ageing
nationalalcoholcampaign@health.gov.au
Website: www.nationalalcoholcampaign.health.gov.au

4. Development of a National Prevention Agenda

To consolidate and strengthen existing prevention measures at Commonwealth and State/Territory level across a range of portfolios that address drug related risk and harm. It is anticipated that the Ministerial Council on Drug Strategy will consider a draft prevention strategy in late 2002.

Target Group: The community, with emphasis on young people, as the Prevention Agenda will focus on interventions early in the pathway towards drug related harm and early in life.
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Youth Health

A number of specific programs or components of programs address Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth health issues at the population health, community, and family level. These programs include:

- Substance misuse programs specifically targeting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth are being delivered within a number of Indigenous substance use services and primary health care services.
- The National 3 on 3 Street Basketball Challenge for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth recognises the need for organised activity for young people which is safe, commonly popular and which requires little expense, training and equipment. Funding is provided for community controlled health services to conduct specific health promotion activities and promotion of the event when it comes to their community.
- There are also specific petrol sniffing programs funded which target Indigenous young people in rural and remote communities as a result of the extent and nature of petrol sniffing and other volatile substance use.

Target Group: Indigenous young people in general and those at risk of drug and alcohol use, and the broader Indigenous community.

National Crime Prevention Program

The National Crime Prevention Program’s objectives are to identify and promote innovative ways of reducing and preventing crime and the fear of crime. The program includes both research and practical initiatives including national pilot projects, local prevention activities and communication and training initiatives. Priority issues include property crime; domestic and family violence and violence in Indigenous communities. A significant proportion of National Crime Prevention Program (NCP) funding is for early intervention initiatives with young people and their families under the Youth Crime and Families Strategy.

National projects focusing on young people include those addressing public space, public events, domestic violence, truancy, bullying, early intervention and homeless youth. Research reports are already available on the domestic violence, early intervention, homelessness and use of public space.

To date key youth related initiatives under the programme include:

- Research Reports
  - "Living Rough - Preventing Crime and Victimisation Among Homeless Young People" (Jefferis B, Grijalva T, 1999).
This project classifies examples of current service delivery to homeless and disadvantaged young people, identifies and develops measures for evaluating the successful practices and strategies which address both the victimisation and the offending rates of young homeless people, and depicts the outcomes resulting from these strategies.

- "Hanging Out - Negotiating Young People's Use of Public Space" (White R, University of Melbourne, 1998)
  This report is based on research completed by Associate Professor Rob White of the University of Melbourne. The research involved a mapping of existing initiatives and approaches, and the identification of key themes and good practice.

- The Western Australian Aboriginal Child Health Survey
  The NCP has committed funding to this joint project with other Commonwealth departments and State agencies in Western Australia. It will be undertaken by the TVW Telethon Institute for Child Health Research. The Survey is designed to provide the State and Commonwealth governments, the ATSIC Regional Councils and Aboriginal Controlled Health Organisations with planning data similar in quality and relevance to the information that is currently available in relation to non-Indigenous children.

- Early Intervention - Youth Crime and Families Strategy
  Building on the Pathways research, the Government committed funding to the Youth Crime and Families Strategy for work on early intervention and the prevention of youth crime. Early intervention is a priority for the NCP. Accordingly, the Program undertakes work aimed at early intervention in a number of areas related to young people who are at risk of becoming involved in crime or anti-social behaviour, and their families.

- Two early intervention demonstration projects have been funded, one in South Australia and one in the Redfern Waterloo area of Sydney, NSW.

- Investing in our Youth - Bunbury, WA
  The NCP has committed funding to the Bunbury Investing in our Youth project - an early intervention initiative aimed at ensuring the resources of the community are used strategically and effectively in creating an environment that supports the healthy development of children and young people.

- Bullying
  Bullying impacts on students' physical and psychological health, educational attainment and social development. Bullying behaviour can also indicate subsequent anti-social and criminal behaviour. The NCP is funding research and development into the most effective ways to prevent and stop bullying in pre-school and in the early primary years. This is a unique approach in focusing on these pre school and early primary school students. Once the most effective anti-bullying strategies are identified, the project will develop information resources to help teachers, parents and carers prevent and address bullying in schools.

- 'Croc' Festivals
  The Commonwealth is committed to working with grass roots Indigenous organisations to achieve innovative solutions to problems experienced by, and promote effective communication among, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. The Croc Eisteddfod Festivals have been developed in concert with the Rock Eisteddfod challenge since 1998. Both events focus on having fun in a drug and alcohol free environment. However, the Croc Festivals place greater emphasis on community partnerships.

- National Review of Juvenile Diversion
  Through the NCP, the Commonwealth Government has commissioned a national profile of diversion programs.

- Mentoring
  The NCP is commissioning a national profile and a literature review on mentoring programs for young offenders. The profiling will include an analysis of the factors that contribute to the successful operation of mentoring programs and it is expected that the literature review will detail evaluations of
established programs both nationally and internationally.

- **Prisoners and their Families**
  Children of prisoners across Australia now have the opportunity to develop a more meaningful relationship with their imprisoned parent as a result of a national pilot program funded under the NCP. The national program, managed by Good Beginnings Australia Ltd, assists children and families of prisoners by, for instance, conducting early childhood development training programs for parents in prison and providing transport for children who want to visit their parents in prison.

- **Truancy and Juvenile Crime**
  There is an established relationship between juvenile crime and non-attendance at school. The Commonwealth and Tasmanian Governments have joined forces to address school truancy and its links to juvenile offending and victimisation. Each has provided funding towards an important initiative in Tasmania, which will tackle the issue of anti-social behaviour and juvenile crime by focusing on school attendance. The project uses a multi-faceted approach involving community, parents, schools and service providers.

- **Indigenous Youth Mentoring Scheme**
  The NCP and the South Australian Government have made a joint commitment to an Indigenous Youth Mentoring Scheme. This scheme is designed to divert at-risk youths away from criminal behaviour by providing intensive mentoring schemes to Indigenous young people who are at early stages of their involvement in the criminal justice system. The Indigenous Youth Mentoring Scheme is part of the Commonwealth Government's commitment to capacity building in South Australia through the NCP.

- **Young People and Burglary Prevention**
  In March 2001 the ACT Government received NCP funding for three projects aimed at reducing the incidence and severity of residential burglary. Along with the Adult Offender project and the Victim Response project, the Juvenile Offender project will implement a mentoring program to reduce recidivism with forty young male offenders assessed as high-risk burglary offenders.

- **A trial of two brief interventions for cannabis problems among young offenders in NSW**
  Based on Australian and overseas research results, the project will develop and trial two brief innovative psychological interventions for adolescent cannabis users. This will increase the range of criminal justice options for a large section of the juvenile offender population, one that fills a serious gap in existing services.

- **Young People and Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction**
  In September 2001, the Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator the Hon Chris Ellison, approved funding for this project. It will be undertaken in conjunction with the National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council (NMVTRC) and state government and local industry bodies to combat motor vehicle theft by developing a good practice model to reduce motor vehicle theft that could be implemented and tested nationally. Initiatives will be funded in Tasmania, Queensland and Western Australia.

Target Groups: The target groups vary from project to project. The pilot projects are evaluated for their efficiency and effectiveness in the prevention of crime and violence in specific settings as well as for their transferability to the similar or different settings across nationally. The reach and effectiveness of communication materials are subject to focus testing and qualitative evaluation.

Coverage: National

Timeframe: 2000 - 2003

Responsible Agency: Attorney-General's Department

**Commonwealth Community Legal Services Programme (CCLSP)**

CCLSP purchases general and specialised legal services on behalf of the most needy
members of the Australian community who are unable to afford a private lawyer. These services are purchased from community legal services in approximately 130 communities located across Australia. While each community legal service assists young people who require legal services, the CCLSP recognises the importance of providing services that specialise in both assisting with and educating young people about their legal rights and responsibilities.

The CCLSP funds five specialist Youth Legal Services as follows:

- (VIC) North Melbourne Community Legal Service;
- (QLD) Logan Youth Legal Service;
- (QLD) Youth Advocacy Centre;
- (SA) Adelaide Inner Northern Community Legal Service; and
- (WA) Youth Legal Service.

Youth legal services provide assistance in a range of important areas, including but not limited to: school suspensions/expulsions, school bullying, disability discrimination in schools, victims compensation applications, family law, consumer rights, sexual harassment, social security problems, youth casual employment practices and mandatory sentencing. The range of service types delivered includes legal advice and casework, information, education and law reform.

In addition, the CCLSP funds the National Children’s Youth Law Centre (NCYLC) to provide legal services. This innovative and successful service has a national focus and targets metropolitan and rural youth via the Internet, [http://www.lawstuff.org.au/](http://www.lawstuff.org.au/).

**Target Group:** Young people under 18.

**Coverage:** Individual Youth Legal Services providing coverage in Victoria, Western Australia, South Australia and Queensland with the NCYLC providing national internet based coverage.

**Timeframe:** Ongoing

**Responsible Agency:** Attorney-General's Department

### Northern Territory Diversionary Scheme

- Northern Territory Agreement The Commonwealth's ongoing commitment to working with the States and Territories to prevent juveniles from entering the criminal justice system is demonstrated by an agreement signed by the Commonwealth and the Northern Territory Government on 27 July 2000. The agreement is designed to divert juveniles from the criminal justice system.

Under the Agreement the Commonwealth is providing funding over four years for a juvenile pre-court diversion scheme and to jointly fund an Aboriginal interpreter service. This enables funding for:

- a range of new community-based diversionary programs in urban, rural and remote communities;
- community based drug and substance abuse diversionary programs
- a Juvenile Diversion Unit in the Northern Territory Police Force which administers the diversion process and which conducts family conferencing and other programs
- a jointly funded Aboriginal Interpreter Service, including recurrent funding for training of interpreters, and
- funding extra in the first year for training of interpreters (in addition to the recurrent funding for training).

The Commonwealth and the Northern Territory are working closely together to facilitate the coordination of initiatives related to the agreement. There will be an initial review of progress of the objectives and the Agreement after the first 12 months.
Initial review of progress of the objectives and the Agreement after the first 12 months of operation. A full review of the agreement will be conducted six months prior to the expiration of the agreement.

By 31 August 2001:

- 1186 juveniles had been diverted, mainly by way of verbal or written warnings; this equates to 77% of all juvenile apprehensions (1548 cases in total).
- 94 existing programs had been approved by the police as suitable for diversion;
- Programs were registered in 23 predominantly Aboriginal communities outside the major centres of Darwin, Katherine, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs.
- 180 police, 4 police civilian staff and 33 non police had received professional training in how to facilitate victim-offender conferencing.
- 492 police officers and 33 Aboriginal Community Police Offenders were trained in general diversion operation. Around 70% of the Police Force have received some form of in-class diversion training. Over 170 organisations, committees and groups had been briefed or consulted by the NT Police on the scheme. In addition, more than 700 community members have been briefed on the scheme.

Target Group: Young people in contact with the juvenile justice system

Coverage: Northern Territory

Timeframe: 2000-01 - 2003-04

Responsible Agency: Attorney-General's Department

**Vietnam Veterans Sons and Daughters Project (VVSDP)**

In August 2000 the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare released a report which validated that the children of Vietnam veterans had a three times higher level of suicide and accidental death rate than expected for their age groups (reports are available from the DVA webpage).

In response to this finding the Commonwealth government has established the Vietnam Veterans Sons and Daughters Project (VVSDP). The goal of this project is to ensure that the children of Vietnam veterans are able to access appropriate services to reduce their level of suicide risk. The Project is based within the Vietnam Veterans' Counselling Service (VVCS).

The VVSDP is based on a broad public health approach to the problem of suicide in this target group. It therefore has both generalist mental health education components, as well as specific crisis supports for those most at risk.

In 2000 the VVCS and the Rural Health Education Foundation produced a video titled 'Suicide and Family Dysfunction in Vietnam Veteran Community' which provides further information regarding specific issues associated with:

- Growing up in a military family environment;
- Specific legacies of Australia's involvement in the Vietnam conflict;
- Growing up in a family where one parent has a psychiatric disability stemming from war related trauma.

Target group: Approximately 85,000 children who were born to Vietnam War veterans since the beginning of the Australia's involvement in the Vietnam conflict. By 2000 25% were aged 19 years and under, 60% were aged between 20-30 years and 15% were over 30 years. This group of young people are moving into the higher risk age groups for suicide in Australia. This target group has also been identified as being "at risk" in the National Suicide Prevention Strategy Action Plan - the LIFE Framework.
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<th>Coverage: National</th>
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<td>Timeframe: Ongoing</td>
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<td>Responsible Agency: Department of Veterans Affairs</td>
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Stepping Forward - Sharing What Works

Recommendation 18

The taskforce recommends that:

- the Commonwealth Government work with State, Territory and local
governments, in building local partnerships with schools, employers
and other community agencies, to ensure that young people at risk of
becoming disconnected have access to a range of cultural, sporting,
recreational and community service activities.
- schools, community agencies, cultural, recreational and sporting
bodies should actively engage with each other to ensure that young
people at risk of disconnection have real opportunities for
participation in their programmes.

Initiatives addressing Recommendation 18

Below is a compilation of initiatives, listed by State/Territory and Commonwealth,
that contribute to building the foundations of support needed to promote the
wellbeing, participation and identification of young people in vulnerable
circumstances. In addition, you are encouraged to look at the current selection of
Snapshots gathered for the State/Territory and Commonwealth initiatives targeting
Recommendation 18.

Queensland

Department of Innovation and Information Economy - Sport and Recreation

- Traineeships Assistance Package
- Get Active Queensland Sports Program
- Protective Behaviours Workshops
- Regional Sports and Recreation Conferences

Education Queensland

- Croc Eisteddfod Festival

Queensland Government

- Queensland Government Youth Suicide Prevention Strategy

Department of Housing

- The Community Renewal Program – Fostering Self-Esteem Project
Department of Corrective Services
- Peer Support System
- The Elder Visits Program
- Literacy Program

Department of Families
- Social and Economic Development Services for Young People
- “Which Way You Mob” Project
- Prevention and Early Intervention Services
- Youth Crime Prevention Services
- Regional Youth Crime Prevention Projects

Arts Queensland
- Arts and Cultural Grants for Young People
- A-Venue and TUTE Contemporary Music Initiatives

Queensland Health
- Youth Drug Summit and the Marginalised Young People’s Project
- Rumble in the Jungle
- 100% IN CONTROL

Rock Eisteddfod Challenge Pty Ltd
- Rock Eisteddfod Challenge Sponsorship

Indigenous Festivals of Australia Ltd
- Croc Festival Sponsorship

Disability Services Queensland
- Moving Ahead Post School Services Program
- Local Area Coordination
- Friendship Program

Victoria

Victorian Qualifications Authority
- Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) Pilots

Department of Human Services
- Community Strengthening Initiative

Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development
- My Connected Community

Northern Territory

Department of Employment, Education and Training
- Aboriginal and Islander Tertiary Aspirations Program (AITAP)
Partnerships and Communications
- AITAP Extension (proposed)
- Partnership (proposed)

Northern Territory Police
- NT Police Juvenile Pre-Court Diversion Scheme

Department of Health and Community services
- Out of school hours activities (proposed)

South Australia

Department of Human Services
- Community Health Services
- Kumungka Youth Service
- Second Story
- Youth Web
- Ceduna - Memorandum of Understanding: Service Provision to Young People in Ceduna and Surrounding Areas
- Coober Pedy - Iwara Kutju, Youth Activities Program (FACS)
- Independent Living Program
- Mentoring, Moving on Program
- Reboot
- Special Programs for Youth
- Aboriginal Youth Accommodation Options Working Group (Bail Options)
- Family and Community Development Program
- Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP)

Department of Education, Training and Employment
- active8 Premier's Youth Challenge
- Monarto Zoo Project
- Operation Flinders

SA Arts
- Young People, Crime Prevention and the Arts Initiative

Office of Consumer and Business Affairs (OCBA)
- Youth initiatives

SA Police
- Blue Light
- Navigator Project

New South Wales

Department of Education and Training
- Industry Education Advisory Committees
- e-Summer Schools Project
- Links to Learning Community Grants Program
Tasmania
Office of Sport and Recreation
- Sport and Recreation Projects

Housing Tasmania
- Community Partnerships

Department of Education
- Various educational programs e.g. Mission Impossible, We Want to Work Programme, No Dole Programme and MARSS Programme

Western Australia
Department of Education
- Students At Educational Risk (SAER) Strategy, Making the Difference
- Vet In Schools
- Regional Access
- Competitively Training (CAT)

Australian Capital Territory
ACT Department of Education and Community Services and DEST
- Full Service Schools

ACT Department of Education and Community Services
- Gugan Gulwan Indigenous Youth Centre
- Extension of Youth Connection Youth Work Service
- Reclink - Recreation Support Program for At-Risk Youth

Commonwealth
Department of Education, Science and Training
- Deadly Vibe promotions
- ECEF - WADU Indigenous Youth Partnerships Initiatives
- CROC Eisteddfod Festivals
- Discovering Democracy

Department of Family and Community Services
- Stronger Families and Communities Strategy
- Australians Working Together – Better Assessment and Early Intervention
- National Youth Week
- Reconnect
- Youth Activities Services Program
- Innovative and Collaborative Youth Servicing (ICYS) Pilots
- Jobs Placement Employment and Training (JPET)
- The Mentor Marketplace
- Centrelink Personal Advisers
Department of Family and Community Services and Department of Transport and Regional Services

- National Awards for Local Government - Youth Services Category

Department of Family and Community Services, Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, and Department of Education, Science and Training

- Australians Working Together

Department of Family and Community Services, and Department of Employment and Workplace Relations

- Preparing for Work Agreements

Department of Family and Community Services, Department of Employment and Workplace Relations and Department of Education, Science and Training

- Mutual Obligation

Department of Employment and Workplace Relations

- Australians Working Together - Work for the Dole
- Australians Working Together - Community Work

Department of Health And Ageing

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Youth Health

Attorney-General’s Department

- National Crime Prevention Program

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Recommendation 18

'The Bay' - ACT

The Full Service Schools Unit was established by the ACT Department of Education and Community Services in July 1999 as part of the Full Service Schools Program for Students at Risk. The Unit coordinated collaborative youth projects that ranged from one-to-one case management, to developing programs tailored to suit a particular school area, or specific groups of young people.

In partnership with the Full Service Schools Unit, the largest college (college students are aged 16-19) in the ACT is actively integrating health education into the classroom and has set up 'The Bay' to provide an holistic approach to the education of students. As part of this approach, the college has established a suite of rooms where students, staff and parents are able to access a wide range of community, government, health and welfare agencies.

Agencies include Quest Employment Service, Centrelink, YWCA CYOSS (Canberra Youth Outreach Support Service), the Indigenous Education Unit, Welfare Rights and Legal Service, ACT Community Care, Canberra Sexual Health Clinic, Tuggeranong Sports Medical Centre, Family Planning ACT, and the ACT Cancer Society.

A steering committee and student advisory group were actively involved in selecting the kinds of services they wanted to operate from 'The Bay', and will continue to function as a reference group for 'The Bay'. Students may access these services on a regular basis on-site, rather than travel to town centres for assistance. A further phase of the program will be to develop courses that incorporate many of the health aspects into the college curriculum.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 18.

Springvale Sports Project - Vic

The Springvale Sports Project began at Springvale Secondary College and widened to other local secondary colleges and primary schools. Members of the Springvale Drug Action
Committee had observed that young people were perhaps most at risk of negative street activity such as crime and drug use in the period immediately after school. Young people lacked youth-oriented facilities. Sport was seen as part of a positive and practical way to engage these young people.

The Model

**Consult with young people** regarding their sporting interest and involvement.

**Target sporting clubs.** Find out whether they are funded to develop junior sport. Invite them onto your committee.

**Kick off with a big event,** "Come and Try" and "Celebrity SportsClinics" work well. A launch best gauges young people's interests for specific sports as well as highlighting which of the clubs are the most enthusiastic to be involved. It is also a great promotional tool.

**The school site** is the best location to launch such a project because it is young people's "turf" and parents feel that their children are safe there.

**Clubs will provide sessions** perhaps after school, during lunchtimes or on weekends to familiarise young people with the sport.

**Teachers' presence is essential** at these initial sessions in order to give legitimacy and safety in the eyes of parents. As an ongoing feature the maintenance of the project should be a small role for one staff member, including attendance at committee meetings, where the bulk of planning and liaison with clubs needs to occur.

**Encourage parent involvement** to ensure sustainability of the program. Clubs will provide training to parents in coaching and they will also require support in transporting young people to and from clubs.

**Eventually shift the program from the school to the sport club.** The school site is only the springboard from which to initiate contact between young people, their families and clubs.

**Promote the positive and lifelong aspects of young people's involvement in sport.** This also attracts sponsors for equipment or other donations because everybody enjoys being part of something positive.

**Maintain ongoing contacts with a variety of local sports clubs such as** sports which are seasonal.

The initiative has successfully attracted youth from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds to local sporting organisations with which they had no former links. It has increased the self-esteem of many young people who have developed positive relationships with a wider cross-section of their community.
For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to [Initiatives targeting Recommendation 18].

**No Dole for me - Tas**

For the past four years, no Brooks High graduate has become a recipient of the dole. Every student since 1998 has gone on to employment, further education or training. Students in grade 10 sign a charter promising to endeavour to get employment or further training. The origins of its success come from the Beacon Foundation, a non-profit Tasmanian Organisation aimed at addressing the issue of youth unemployment. The foundation has support from artist Pro Hart, footballer Dermott Brereton, Prime Minister John Howard and businessmen such as CRS executive officer Peter Kirby. The school's education and employment officer Kym Richardson said the foundation's financial help and mentoring had helped the school secure its great reputation.

The school is recognised for its innovative and forward thinking culture. Brooks School prides itself on being a future orientated school which provides opportunities for the students to learn skills and competencies for tomorrow's citizen. The Principal, Mr. Dennis Betts says the No Dole Program is the lifeblood that runs through our schools, it pumps hope and optimism through our students.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to [Initiatives targeting Recommendation 18].

**Making a difference - NT**

**PRE-COURT DIVERSION SCHEME**

A 17-year-old indigenous young person forced entry, damaged and stole alcohol from, the clubrooms of the premises of a sporting association. This young person is a repeat offender of similar offences over the previous two years and is believed to have used cannabis from 12 years of age. His attendance, when at school, was erratic, although he had not attended school for three years and was unemployed. The young person has a difficult family situation that is exacerbated by his suffering from Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder (ADHD).

The sporting association requested a victim offender conference be held. The young person and his family agreed and at the conference he showed remorse for his actions and later apologised to the victim in writing. He also agreed to attend the
sporting association's premises and undertake a day's community service, which involved moving sand, repairing irrigation systems and some cleaning of the sports centre. During discussions about his future plans, including further education and/or training, the young person agreed to participate in a six-week residential education and training program at another regional centre.

The young person enjoyed attending and successfully completing a Certificate I in beef cattle production where he developed basic skills for working on a cattle station. When this course was completed he opted to remain, at his own expense, and undertake a further seven weeks' study that resulted in his obtaining a Certificate II in beef cattle production enabling him to obtain employment in the cattle industry.

In the six months since his conference, this young person has not re-offended.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 18.

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**Discovering Democracy - Commonwealth**

An independent evaluation of the programme to the end of 1999 emphasised that Discovering Democracy equips young people to become more involved in their communities: "In one school it was salutary to hear that a student who had been suspended several times for rebellious and anti-social behaviour had changed his approach after becoming involved with community volunteers. He was able to recognise and acknowledge through his behaviour that these people, who gave willingly of their time to help out people from backgrounds worse than his own, were worthy role models. In several schools there were stories of student maturity of response to citizenship responsibilities, for example toward the unfortunate people in war torn East Timor or earthquake ravaged Turkey."

(Evaluation of the Discovering Democracy Program, Erebus Consulting Group, 1999)

Karoonda Area School, a small, 180 student R-12 school in regional South Australia (about 150km east of Adelaide) developed a programme with a strong focus on active student involvement in both the school and the local community. This programme won a Discovering Democracy Achievement Award in 2000. Karoonda students helped to formulate an anti-bullying policy and foster a "bully-proof" culture in the school. They also helped the local Karoonda Development Group promote the strengths of the community.

Discovering Democracy has enabled the South Australian Criminal Lawyers Group to visit schools to talk about criminal law, how the
schools to talk about criminal law, how the courts work, and peer mediation and to provide professional development for teachers on the judicial system. South Australian Discovering Democracy Project Officers report that lots of schools are rethinking student representation arrangements "and trying to provide opportunities for students who are on the margins to get involved in the life of the school".

Tasmanian Grade 5-8 students are using Discovering Democracy resources in a Police at Work project which links schools with their local police and encourages them to understand and develop a closer affinity with people and organisations in their local community. The resources used "hold appeal to disaffected students because they encourage a student driven agenda, are linked to real places and people - not abstract concepts and hand a large degree of the responsibility for learning over to the students." (Tony Poynter, Tasmanian Discovering Democracy project officer).

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 18.

Multi-Cultural Youth Arts Festival and Video, Reconnect - Commonwealth

One project has focused on raising cultural awareness amongst service providers so that they are more accessible to NESB clients. They have utilised a range of strategies.

The project organised a cultural awareness forum for workers in the community out of which a working party has been set up to address issues identified.

They have worked with a number of schools on an arts-based project exploring homelessness issues with large groups of young people. The work devised with the students is now being included in a video to be used in further community education.

A multi-cultural youth arts festival is now being developed which will include students, parents and a wide range of service providers. This will be a fun celebration and will link people with services.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 18.

Addressing family violence, Meekatharra - Commonwealth

YAS programs operate in many remote areas,
serving mostly Indigenous communities but also non-Indigenous young people in towns or on stations. The community development focus of many YAS programs helps to increase the capacity of communities to find their own solutions to their problems.

Finding a way of building connectedness across different communities is not easy, but in Meekatharra a major project shows how taking a holistic approach can produce good outcomes.

The project involved a multi-layered approach to building connections between young people and their families as well as with service providers across the region. It also gave young people leadership skills and increased their pride in what they could achieve.

Projects like Meekatharra's assist in increasing the resilience of young people, their families and whole communities when they face difficult issues like violence.

Eight hundred kilometres north-east of Perth, Meekatharra is located in the Murchison region of Western Australia. Meekatharra YAS employs Indigenous staff and works with a large number of Indigenous young people from surrounding communities. With extra funding from the WA Women's Policy Development Unit, the YAS undertook a major project to make Murchison a 'Family Violence Free Zone'.

The project involved a number of stages. First a Youth Advisory Council was established with young people from a range of remote communities planning all the project stages. An arts workshop and competition was held to come up with a slogan and design. The winning design was printed on T-shirts and posters. The posters were distributed to communities around the region.

The next stage was to invite young people from communities throughout the area to come to workshops on domestic violence and sexual health. Local service providers presented information on many topics including family violence, protective behaviour and other strategies for dealing with crisis situations.

To attract as many young people as possible the workshops were part of a bigger event. On the first day the workshop was followed by the project launch. A buffet dinner was held for all participants, their families and service providers. At the dinner the competition artwork was put on display and the design prize-winners were announced.

On the second day, the workshop was followed
by a basketball carnival between teams of young people from different communities.

Attracting around 100 young people, the whole event was very successful in a number of ways.

Many young people developed new artistic skills and took pride in their artistic and their sporting abilities. Through the project, they also became more aware of family violence issues and put their trust in other agencies. Another important outcome saw more positive interaction between young people from different communities and increased networking between the many service providers involved.

"We were so proud of the way they interacted with each other. The whole weekend was just a fantastic experience for not only our youth, but also the youth from all the other communities. They can't wait to do it again."

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 18.

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**Cultural Leadership in an Indigenous Community, Largs Bay - Commonwealth**

At the core of making services accessible to young people is the ability of the YAS workers to design programs that involve young people in something that is important to them. For example, in Kura Yerlo the service developed an Aboriginal heritage curriculum for a communities studies class. The idea was to reach young people who were unsure about their cultural identity.

The project succeeded in connecting the young people to their Aboriginal heritage and their community. Since then, the course has expanded and received accreditation.

Kura Yerlo is an Aboriginal community centre located in the western suburbs of Adelaide. Over the last couple of years, Kura Yerlo YAS has been involved in developing an innovative cultural leadership project.

Kura Yerlo YAS worked with the school, other local organisations and the Aboriginal community elders to develop a curriculum on Aboriginal heritage for Aboriginal young people. The curriculum was funded and accredited through the Vocational Education and Training Board and was run as a three-week pilot program.

The project was about Aboriginal history, identity and future directions. It involved young people from the local school working with and interviewing the elders to document their stories as part of their community studies. The young people went on camps with the elders, learned how to make artefacts and how to use weapons for hunting and gathering. They also had work experience in Aboriginal and mainstream organisations and were involved in interviewing Aboriginal leaders.

A particularly moving exercise involved a role-play for Aboriginal and non-
Aboriginal participants to learn about the history of South Australia from an Aboriginal perspective.

Participants were put into language groups and given information about their culture and land. A separate piece of paper represented each group's land and identity. As key historical events happened which removed different groups from their land, participants were physically separated and the piece of paper was gradually cut down in size. Participants discussed how they felt about each event without focussing on blame. Instead, the role-play made participants more aware of South Australia's history and encouraged them to become more active and empathetic citizens in the future.

The whole process was documented including a video of the project. Kura Yerlo YAS plans to revisit the same young people in five years time to see how they have developed. Commenting on the value of the project to everyone involved, the YAS coordinator said:

"Seeing Aboriginal young people, who knew they were Aboriginal because of their name or what they'd been told - they may for instance have a non-Aboriginal mother and an Aboriginal father, but the father's not there... but then to go to the archives and trace that family and see those young people start feeling an identification with the land and with their own people was fantastic. And seeing the elders recollect from their past and then to pass that down to the young was an experience too."

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to [Initiatives targeting Recommendation 18](#).
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 18

Queensland

Traineeships Assistance Package

Sport and Recreation Queensland is currently preparing guidelines to meet the Queensland Government election commitment Better Skills: $1.5 million to provide 100 new traineeships within the sport and recreation industry. It is anticipated this package will be released by the end of June 2002.

Target group: Young people

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: June 2004

Responsible agency: Dept of Innovation and Information Economy - Sport and Recreation

Contact: Director
Program Management and Development
Ph: (07) 3237 0284

Website: http://www.sportrec.qld.gov.au

Get Active Queensland Schools Program

This is a program where successful athletes, including sportsmen and women from the Queensland Academy of Sport, visit school to motivate and coach children, and provide assistance with skill development. The program aims to encourage increased participation and skill development in rural and remote areas of Queensland and enhance the links between schools and community sport and recreation organisations.

Target group: Young people

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: June 2004

Responsible agency: Dept of Innovation and Information Economy - Sport and Recreation

Contact: Director
Program Management and Development
Ph: (07) 3237 0284
Website: http://www.sportrec.qld.gov.au

Protective Behaviours Workshops

In partnership with Queensland Police, the aim of this initiative is to develop child protection training courses targeting sport and recreation administrators. Queensland Police will deliver a series of training workshops to State, regional and club sports and recreation organisations at major population centres throughout
Queensland.

Target group: Sport and recreation administrators

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: June 2004

Responsible agency: Dept of Innovation and Information Economy -Sport and Recreation

Contact: Director
Program Management and Development
Ph: (07) 3237 0284

Website: http://www.sportrec.qld.gov.au

**Regional Sport and Recreation Conferences**

Six regional conferences will be delivered annually commencing June 2002 and concluding June 2004 which explore issues that affect the development of sport in local communities. Conference delegates will attend a two-day conference and be provided with user-friendly resources detailing information about Sport and Recreation Queensland programs, services and appropriate contact details.

Target group: Coaches, officials, teachers, athletes, administrators, students and parents

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: June 2004

Responsible agency: Dept of Innovation and Information Economy -Sport and Recreation

Contact: Director
Program Management and Development
Ph: (07) 3237 0284

Website: http://www.sportrec.qld.gov.au

**Croc Eisteddfod Festival**
(also addresses rec 20)

Education Queensland in conjunction with State and Commonwealth Health Departments continues to support the annual Croc Eisteddfod Festival. This event was initiated in 1998. The Croc Eisteddfod Festival targets students on remote Cape and Gulf communities as part of the National Drug Offensive. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students participate in presentations with a theme aimed at drug and alcohol awareness and prevention. In 2001, the event was held on Thursday Island.

Website: www.crocfestivals.org.au

Target group: Indigenous Youth at Risk

Coverage: State wide with localised activities.

Timeframe: Ongoing 2001/2002

Responsible agency: Indigenous Festival Australia in conjunction with other agencies including Education Queensland, Queensland Health.

Contact: Indigenous Education Programs
Ph: (07) 3237 0808
Queensland Government Youth Suicide Prevention Strategy
(also addresses recs 19 and 20)

The aim of the QGYSPS is "to prevent self-harming behaviour, particularly youth suicide, and to reduce the impact of youth suicide on families and communities through coordinated and integrated life affirming strategies which enhance the quality of life for young people, their families and their communities".

The cornerstone of the QGYSPS is the establishment of local community networks to strengthen the capacity of families and communities to take ownership of suicide prevention and respond to the needs of young people at the local level. The QGYSPS identified a range of strategies for communities to consider across the spectrum of prevention, early intervention, treatment, and postvention.

Target group: Young people aged 15-24 years of age

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: The Queensland Government Youth Suicide Prevention Strategy is a whole of Government initiative that is chaired by the Department of Premier and Cabinet and involves the Department of Employment and Training, Queensland Health, Education Queensland, Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Policy and the Department of Families.

Contact: Director
Office of Youth Affairs
(07) 3224 2807

Website: www.youth.qld.gov.au

The Community Renewal Program - Fostering Self-Esteem Project
(also addresses rec 19)

This project provides educational activities for young people during the school holiday period. Activities aim to break down barriers between youth and police, raise awareness of drug and alcohol abuse, introduce youth to crime prevention education, encourage participation in sporting recreational activities to relieve boredom and self-worthlessness and enhance the multi-agency approach to addressing issues in Manoora.

Target group: Young people in the Manoora community

Coverage: Manoora

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Housing

Contact: Senior Project Officer
Community Renewal
Ph: (07) 3225 2545

Website: www.housing.qld.gov.au

Peer Support System
(also addresses recs 19 and 20)

The program is for Indigenous prisoners who require personal support to cope with issues relating to incarceration. The program is offered at Townsville Correctional Centre and Lotus Glen Correctional Centre in Mareeba. The department also provides
opportunities for peer support to non-Indigenous prisoners, particularly young offenders, who may be at risk within all correctional centres.

Target group: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander offenders including youth
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible agency: Department of Corrective Services
Contact: Adviser Workplace Practices
Ph: (07) 3405 6292
Website: [www.dcs.qld.gov.au](http://www.dcs.qld.gov.au)

The Elder Visits Program
(also addresses 19 and 20)

The Elder Visits Program sees Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders visit offenders in correctional centres. They regularly meet young offenders for non-structured meetings sharing news about their families and providing updates on community events, aiding their cultural awareness and personal development. In the case of the youth detention centre they provide assistance where applicable in the transition from youth to adult facilities.

Target group: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander offenders including youth
Coverage: Elder groups are located in Brisbane, Cairns, Townsville, Rockhampton and Cherbourg
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible agency: Department of Corrective Services
Contact: Adviser Workplace Practices
Ph: (07) 3405 6292
Website: [www.dcs.qld.gov.au](http://www.dcs.qld.gov.au)

Literacy Program
(also addresses 19 & 20)

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander prisoners participate in literacy assessment and training in all correctional centres. During 2001, 321 Indigenous prisoners participated in literacy education programs state wide. This number represents an Indigenous participation rate of 24%.

Target group: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander offenders including youth
Coverage: Townsville
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible agency: Department of Corrective Services
Contact: Adviser Workplace Practices
Ph: (07) 3405 6292
Website: [www.dcs.qld.gov.au](http://www.dcs.qld.gov.au)

Social and Economic Development Services for Young People

The Department’s Social and Economic Development Services (SED) provide young people at risk with positive opportunities to develop their social skills and to build
relationships with their peers, families and their communities. These positive opportunities can assist young people in successful transition to adulthood and can have a preventative role for young people at risk of engaging in harmful behaviour.

Social and Economic Development Services undertake activities which meet the following outcomes:

- young people have a sense of belonging and a "stake" in the place in which they live
- communities plan, develop and deliver effective responses to the needs of young people
- young people develop social and personal skills for independent and successful community living
- young people are assisted in the transition towards economic independence.

Target group: Youth aged 12-25 years, particularly those experiencing limited opportunities for participation in the social, cultural or economic life of the community

Coverage: State wide concentrated in rural areas

Timeframe: 2000/2003

Responsible agency: Department of Families

Contact: Director
Families Youth & Community Branch
Ph: (07) 3225 2372

Website: www.families.qld.gov.au

"Which Way You Mob" Project
(also addresses rec 19)

The Aboriginal Coordinating Council (ACC) based in Cairns is funded to coordinate prevention and intervention services for Indigenous young people at risk in Far North Queensland remote communities. The project provides assistance to communities to plan and implement activities that strengthen the ties between young people, their families and their communities.

A number of funding rounds have been conducted to support developmental activities in communities (Youth Activity Grants). Funding processes have been timed to coincide with school holidays, which traditionally have been peak periods for offending or substance abuse. A broad range of sports, social, recreational and arts/cultural activities have been funded. Approximately one third of the funds have been allocated to arts and cultural activities.

In addition, project staff based within the ACC have assisted communities establish Youth Councils, undertake youth action planning processes, and develop planned responses to community crises such as suicide and petrol sniffing.

Target group: Youth at risk of suicide, self-harm and offending within the target communities. However, strategies may involve a range of stakeholders including families, service providers, young people, community councillors and the broader community.

Coverage: Thirteen of the fourteen Queensland Deed of Grant in Trust (DOGIT) communities are resourced by this project. Other remote communities in the Northern Peninsula receive support through regional initiatives undertaken by the project.

Timeframe: 1999/2002
Prevention and Early Intervention Services

Prevention and early intervention services are funded to assist families to care for their children and provide a safe environment. Types of prevention and early intervention activities funded include parent education, brief family counselling and mediation services, independent and community living skills, advice and consultancy to other organisations and intensive work with families to improve parenting skills.

Target group: Children, youth 0-18 years and families

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: 2000/2003

Responsible agency: Department of Families

Contact: Director
   Child Protection
   Ph: (07) 3224 8431

Website: www.families.qld.gov.au

Youth Crime Prevention Services
(also addresses recs 17 and 19)

Funding is provided to community organisations to contribute to the reduction in youth crime through the provision of programs that address the factors that contribute to youth offending or re-offending. Young people have the opportunity to achieve their maximum potential and participate in family and community life, through the delivery of programs and services that address the underlying causes of offending.

Target group: Young people aged 10-17 years at risk of offending or re-offending

Coverage: 25 services in areas of high youth crime across the State

Timeframe: Commenced in 1992 and is ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Families

Contact: Director
   Service Development Branch, Youth Justice
   Ph: (07) 3224 7852

Website: www.families.qld.gov.au

Regional Youth Crime Prevention Projects
(also addresses rec 17)

Funding for community organisations in targeted regional communities to provide programs which address the factors that contribute to youth offending or re-offending.

Target group: Youth aged 10-17 years at risk of offending or re-offending

Coverage: Cairns and Far North Queensland, Townsville, Thuringowa, Charters Towers, Mackay, Rockhampton, Gladstone and Wide Bay
Arts and Cultural Grants for Young People

Through the provision of small grants (up to $5000 per grant) specifically for young people, Arts Queensland supports young people to participate in their preferred arts and cultural activities. Young people at risk of becoming disconnected are eligible to apply.

Target group: Youth aged 15-25 years
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible agency: Arts Queensland

A-Venue and TUTE Contemporary Music Initiatives

These initiatives provide opportunities for young people to develop skills in the music industry through business training, mentoring and fully subsidised access to production facilities. Management of A-Venue and TUTE has been devolved to the community organisation QMusic, which is actively engaged in partnerships with music industry professionals, businesses and community cultural development organisations to deliver the program to young people. Young people at risk of becoming disconnected who have an interest in contemporary music can access the programs’ activities.

Target group: Youth aged 15-25 years
Coverage: Brisbane and surrounds, Rockhampton, Townsville and Cairns
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible agency: Arts Queensland

Youth Drug Summit and the Marginalised Young People's Project

The Youth Drug Consultation Project established twenty-six projects in twenty-four sites across the State targeting at risk young people. It operated in partnership with peak youth and indigenous bodies. Each project focused on young people’s alcohol and drug issues and provided a process for young people to express their ideas, concerns and issues about the prevention of harm relating to alcohol and drug use. Through working together as a team the projects also aimed to build protective factors such as connectedness, problem solving, self efficacy and resiliency through improved access to support services for the young people participating in the projects. This project culminated in the Youth Drug Summit in October 2001.

The Marginalised Young People’s Program has been developed as a follow up to the Youth Drug Summit. At the Summit, at risk and marginalised young people and their
support workers were invited to present and discuss their ideas and make recommendations to the Queensland Government about improving youth drug prevention programs and services.

The recommendations from the Summit will be included in Queensland Health’s Illicit Drug Action Plan consultations.

A possible next stage is the establishment of local youth drug prevention networks to look at the management and implementation of the Summit recommendations at the local community level.

Target group: Youth
Coverage: Statewide
Timeframe: 2001 – next steps still under consideration
Responsible agency: Queensland Health
Contact: Senior Prevention Adviser
Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Services
Ph (07) 3234 1942


Rumble in the Jungle
(also addresses rec 19 and 20)

The 100% IN CONTROL Rumble in the Jungle is a sport and adventure-based program that looks at crime prevention and alcohol, tobacco and other drug issues for at risk young people. It consists of team-based physical and mental challenges developed around an adventure activity course. Young people are involved in the planning, decision-making and implementation of the event.

This is not a one-off event. During the lead up to main activities, team members participate in team building activities, training events, alcohol, tobacco and other drug education sessions and activities that facilitate the development of trust and team building. Participants follow an extensive team building and self esteem process which includes being introduced to staff of various youth services in their local areas.

Rumble in the Jungle planning and implementation often occurs through the development of local organising committees or other partnership groups.

Target group: At risk young people 12-17 years of age
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible agency: Queensland Health
Contact: Senior Project Officer
Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Services
Ph (07) 3234 0344
Aleesa_Clough@health.qld.gov.au
Website: [www.100incontrol.com](http://www.100incontrol.com)

100% IN CONTROL

100% IN CONTROL is Queensland Health’s alcohol, tobacco and other drug prevention campaign for young people aged 12-17 years. Statewide strategies
include sponsorship of the Rock Eisteddfod Challenge and Croc Festival, Rumble in
the Jungle, the "Poison" smoking prevention campaign, a website
(www.100incontrol.com) and supporting many local initiatives and activities through
various tools and resources.

Target group: Young people 12-17 years olds

Coverage: Statewide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible Agency: Queensland Health

Contact: Senior Project Officer
Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Services
Ph (07) 3234 0344

Website: www.100incontrol.com

Rock Eisteddfod Challenge Sponsorship
(Also addresses rec 20)

Queensland Health provides major naming rights sponsorship of the Rock Eisteddfod
Challenge in Queensland through the 100% IN CONTROL alcohol, tobacco, and other
drug prevention program for young people. Queensland Health's sponsorship of the
Rock Eisteddfod Challenge is used as a general education and drug prevention
vehicle, in addition to giving young people an opportunity to produce and stage a
performance. It also aims to increase resiliency factors among participating students,
including school and community connectedness. Events are staged in five sites
across Queensland, with 5,000 direct participants in 2001.

Target group: Queensland secondary school students

Coverage: Queensland schools with secondary students

Timeframe: Ongoing 2001-2003

Responsible agency: Rock Eisteddfod Challenge Pty Ltd with sponsorship from
Queensland Health, various Commonwealth Departments and media agencies.

Contact: Senior Project Officer
Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Services
Ph (07) 3234 0344

Website: www.rockchallenge.com.au
www.crocfestivals.org.au

Croc Festival Sponsorship
(Also address rec 20)

Queensland Health is the major naming rights sponsor of the Croc Festival in
Queensland through the 100% IN CONTROL alcohol, tobacco and other drug
prevention program for young people. Substantial sponsorship of the Croc Festival is
also provided by Education Queensland. Croc Festival sponsorship is used as an
education and drug prevention vehicle, in addition to giving young people an
opportunity to produce and stage a performance. It also aims to increase resiliency
factors among participating students, including school and community
connectedness, school attendance, reconciliation and outcomes and self-esteem. The
Croc Festival has been staged in Weipa since its inception in 1998, until 2001 which
marked the first event hosted by Thursday Island in the Torres Strait.

Target group: Indigenous and non-Indigenous school students in remote
communities
Moving Ahead Post School Services Program
(also addresses recommendation 22 & 23)

The Moving Ahead Post School Services Program (Moving Ahead) supports and encourages the transition of young people as they leave behind the role of student and begin to take on adult roles. As the purpose of the Program is transitional, assistance for each individual is available for a period of up to two years.

Moving Ahead has a dual focus as it provides support not only to the young person but also to their families/carers.

The Program’s focus regarding the young person is aimed at enabling him/her to experience a range of options and opportunities as they work toward the transition to adulthood. This support may mean that over the course of their individual program young people may take on a changing role within the family, participate increasingly in the life of their community as well as build on existing relationships and recreational interests. Some young people will also wish to explore vocational goals.

Assistance through the Program is twofold. Firstly, young people and their families will be assisted by Supports Facilitators to identify their needs and goals and to explore the range of possible formal and informal supports required to assist them work toward their individual goals. Secondly, the Program provides individualised funding which is used to purchase the identified supports and services.

Target Group:
Moving Ahead aims to assist those young people who, on leaving school, are not able to access State funded education and prevocational programs and vocational programs funded by the Commonwealth government.

To be eligible for the program, a young person must:

- be 18 years old when they enter the Moving Ahead Program; and
- be exiting or have exited special school or special education programs and/or services; and
- have a level of disability which results in high and complex support needs; and
- be eligible for assistance under the Queensland Disability Services Act, 1992; and
- not have access to tertiary education, vocational training or employment options.
Local Area Coordination
(also addresses recommendation 22 & 23)

Local Area Coordination is a service provided by Disability Services Queensland, which supports people with a disability and their families who live in the local community. The local area coordinator works with people with disabilities, their families and the local community to bring about positive changes that:

- assist people with a disability live independently and participate in the community;
- assist families in their continued provision of care and support; and
- result in communities becoming more welcoming and inclusive of people with disabilities and their families.

Target Group:
Specific rural and remote areas of Queensland have been targeted to be service by a local area coordinator. The service targets people with a disability as defined under the Queensland Disability Services Act (1992).

Coverage:
Gympie, Hervey Bay, Murgon, Kingaroy, Mundubbera, Emerald, Longreach, Roma, Chinchilla, Charleville, Cunnamulla, Mt Isa, Mareeba, Mossman, Cooktown and Thursday Island.

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible Agency: Disability Services Queensland

Contact: Program Development Coordinator, Local Area Coordination
Ph: (07) 3224 8002

Website: www.disability.qld.gov.au

Friendship Program
(also addresses recommendation 16, 22 & 23)

The Friendship Program aims to enhance the opportunity for people with a disability to form friendships with other in the community by:

- Encouraging friendship support through services and community groups
- An individual support strategy

Target Group:
Encouraging Friendship Support strategies are targeted to disability services and community groups.

Individual support is available to people with a disability aged 18 – 65 years. People who have limited friendship networks and do not have a supportive service to help them to develop and maintain friendships will be give priority in accessing individual support.

Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible Agency: Disability Services Queensland

Contact: State Coordinator
Ph: (07) 3224 0630

Website: www.disability.qld.gov.au
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 18

Victoria

Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) trials

These trials will be framed around four compulsory Curriculum Strands, covering literacy and numeracy; work related skills; industry specific skills; and personal development.

Target group: As a new qualification alongside the VCE, VCAL offers another pathway to all post compulsory students, with a special emphasis on applied learning.

Coverage: In 2002, trials will be conducted in up to nine regional locations across the State, involving fifteen government and five non-government schools and two TAFE Institutes. An array of other organisations are participating in various VCAL partnerships associated with the trial sites, including Adult, Community and Further Education (ACFE) providers, local employers and community groups, and the Local Learning and Employment Networks (LLENS).

Timeframe: Following the trial in 2002 and pending a successful evaluation, to be offered widely across Victorian government and non-government schools in 2003

Responsible Agency: Victorian Qualifications Authority (VQA)

Website: www.vqa.vic.gov.au/vqa

Community Strengthening Initiative

This program consists of 76 projects across Victoria and aims to enhance the capacity of local communities to respond to drug issues.

Target group: Young people in their local communities, with a particular emphasis on Koori young people and young people from culturally and linguistically diverse communities

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: 2002 - 2003

Responsible Agency: Department of Human Services, Rural and Regional Health and Aged Care Services Division, Drug Policy and Services

Website: www.dhs.vic.gov.au

My Connected Community

My Connected Community is a virtual space where communities interact online. The main objective is to encourage community groups to create online communities by offering free Web-based services.

Target group: Community groups, specifically from non-English speaking backgrounds, people with disabilities and regional groups, especially those with limited Internet skills and experience
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coverage</th>
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<tr>
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<td>2001 - 2002</td>
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<td>Responsible Agency</td>
<td>Multimedia Victoria (Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development and VICNET)</td>
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Initiatives targeting Recommendation 18

Northern Territory

Aboriginal and Islander Tertiary Aspiration Program (AITAP)

The Aboriginal and Islander Tertiary Aspiration Program (AITAP) is a school and community based support program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students who hope to complete Year 12 studies and enter higher education courses. It encourages, supports and assists them during their secondary school years to improve their academic attainment and achieve their career aspirations.

Target group: Indigenous students in urban secondary schools

Coverage: Urban secondary schools in the NT

Timeframe: 2001 - 2004

Responsible agency: Department of Employment, Education and Training

Website: www.education.nt.gov.au

Partnerships and Communications (proposed)

The Partnership initiative focuses on strategies to engage schools and communities in the implementation of the Department of Employment, Education and Training (DEET) Indigenous Education Strategic Plan, Element 6 - Indigenous parents and communities share responsibility with government for educational outcomes. Within this program the Partnerships and Communications Unit is responsible for providing feedback to parents, Indigenous communities, other government departments and DEET. Feedback could include promoting best practice models, encouraging student attendance and fostering community involvement in decision making. This initiative endeavours to engage Indigenous people in the development and implementation of strategies to improve employment, education and training opportunities.

Target group: Whole Community

Coverage: Territory wide

Timeframe: 2002 - 2004

Responsible agency: Department Employment, Education and Training

Website: www.education.nt.gov.au

AITAP Extension (proposed)

Extension of The Aboriginal and Islander Tertiary Aspiration Program (AITAP) to include Indigenous secondary students attending remote community schools and Indigenous students in urban secondary schools aged 12 years and upwards.

The program will focus on student progression to tertiary education and employment; transition from primary to secondary schooling; retention of students through to Year 12; personal development for 'at risk' Indigenous students such as building sound study skills.
Target group: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students
Coverage: Urban high schools and remote community schools
Timeframe: 2002 - 2004
Responsible agency: Department of Employment, Education and Training
Website: www.education.nt.gov.au

Proposed Initiative name: Partnerships

1. Local Education Advisory Boards (LEABS)

LEABs will be established in communities to support the full engagement of Indigenous people in improving educational outcomes of Indigenous students in the Northern Territory. Four pilot communities will be selected in 2002.

The aim of the pilots will be to establish educational advisory boards with appropriate community leadership. The pilots could be established in community schools or cluster schools within linguistically and culturally affiliated regions.

LEAB's, with departmental support, will develop community education plans to aid in the implementation of the Department of Employment, Education and Training Indigenous Education 5-Year Strategic Plan, NIELNS and IESIP Agreements.

2. Self Managed Schools

Provision to be made for community control over education decision-making processes, while establishing clear benchmarks for expected improvements.

It is envisioned that the Local Education Advisory Board will be the management group for a self managed school.

This initiative seeks to achieve:

- Local responsibility for the maintenance and development of community well being and human resources
- Community capacity to embrace educational and social change
- Efficient and effective consultation and reporting processes
- Flexible and creative community direction to the school principal for delivery and resourcing of school programs.

3. Ongoing partnership development

Partnerships will foster collaboration from all stakeholders in achieving common goals in education. They will seek to improve Indigenous student outcomes through:

- Engagement and involvement of key local leaders in the development and maintenance of the partnerships
- Building relationships and linkages between relevant stakeholders, activities and programs at the local and regional level.
- Collaborative utilisation of human, material and financial resources.
- Encouragement and support of improved communication through networking between key stakeholders at the community and regional level.
- Harnessing expertise, building knowledge, and encouraging and assisting relevant data gathering and research
- Activities such as collaborative planning and development, consultation, two way communication and the gathering of information integral to the successful implementation of the local and regional plans.
- Sharing information and ideas (networking) between organisations and communities across the NT
- Organisational and community based workshops and services aimed at supporting the development and implementation of the strategic plans.
Contact with Commonwealth and Territory officers to foster shared knowledge of government processes and identify and create linkages with broad organisational and community processes.

Target group: Whole Community
Coverage: Territory Wide
Timeframe: 2002 - 2004
Responsible agency: Department Employment, Education and Training.
Website: www.education.nt.gov.au

**NT Police Juvenile Pre-Court Diversion Scheme**

The Scheme incorporates widespread consultation with relevant stakeholders within the community, particularly Aboriginal people, and encourages groups and organisations to develop suitable programs for juveniles at risk. Programs available in communities for the referral of offending juveniles are registered. These include providing assistance at the council, school or health centre, special projects occurring at the time of referral or assistance with the elderly, including tribal elders. Further holistic programs are developed in the communities that will alleviate youth boredom, give a sense of purpose and develop life skills that will prevent offending and assist the youth to become responsible members of their community. Programs must provide a range of interventions such as education, sport, recreation, job training, life skills, counselling, mentoring, substance abuse education, adventure, employment and community service activities. A primary focus of these programs will be providing life skills and education activities that will enhance the juvenile's opportunities to reintegrate into the education system or to find employment.

All Northern Territory Police school based constables have been trained in both victim offender conferencing and the diversion of juveniles from the formal justice system. Juveniles in schools identified at risk who have committed offences can be referred by police to appropriate programs in the community. Victim offender conferences are also recognised as an effective alternative in many cases to the suspension of at risk youth from the schools. These can be conducted by school based constables or teachers trained conferencing facilitation.

Target group: Juveniles who commit a minor offence.
Coverage: All urban centres, and communities.
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible agency: Northern Territory Police
Website: www.nt.gov.au/pfes/

**Out of school hours activities** (proposed)

Target group: Young people 10 - 15 years
Coverage: Nightcliff and Borroloola pilots
Timeframe: Funding 2002/3 - 2004/5
Responsible agency: Department of Health and Community Services
Website: www.nt.gov.au/health/
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 18

South Australia

Community Health Services

Adelaide Central Community; Inner Southern Community; Noarlunga Health Services; Northern Metro

All of these services run projects for young people who are at risk of being disconnected from their social networks.

Target group: All young people with some projects for specific socio-economic groups

Coverage: Metropolitan

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Human Services - Metropolitan Division

Website: www.dhs.sa.gov.au

Kumungka Youth Service

Aims to:

- improve health, safety and welfare of Aboriginal young people whilst in the inner city area
- increase the number of Aboriginal young people diverted from criminal activity
- increase Aboriginal young people's access to appropriate support services, including accommodation, health, education and training
- increase Aboriginal young people's awareness and ability to make appropriate life choices

Target group: 10-25

Coverage: Metropolitan

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Human Services - Metropolitan Division

Website: www.dhs.sa.gov.au

Second Story

Youth Health Service (part of Child and Youth Health) Noarlunga, Elizabeth and City

Target group: 12-25

Coverage: Metropolitan

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Human Services - Metropolitan Division
Youth Web

A joint initiative of DETE, DHS, Centacare, Catholic Education Service, Baptist Community Services and Southern Junction Youth Services, the project assists in the development of whole school and community support structures for students who are most at risk of disengaging early from education.

These structures form part of a support plan, which relies on the strengths of the young person as identified by the young person, the family, the school and the team. The support plan enlists the backing of non-traditional support persons to facilitate a more positive engagement of the young person with education and community life. The model is based on the Wraparound process developed by American academic and researcher, Lucille Eber.

Other Youth Web projects are still being planned

Target group: 13-25 year olds at risk of disengaging

Coverage: Metropolitan

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Human Services - Metropolitan Division

Website: www.dhs.sa.gov.au

Ceduna - Memorandum of Understanding:

Service Provision to Young People in Ceduna and Surrounding Areas This memorandum will ensure that service provision to youth (with a focus on Aboriginal youth), in Ceduna and surrounds, is coordinated and delivered in a manner that enables each individual program to maximise its goals and objectives. It will also ensure new models of service delivery are developed and promoted.

Target group: Aboriginal young people

Coverage: Ceduna

Timeframe: Pilot

Responsible agency: Department of Human Services - Aboriginal Services Division

Website: www.dhs.sa.gov.au

Coober Pedy - Iwara Kutju (Community Development Employment Program [CDEP] ) Youth Activities Program (FACS)

Employ 2 trainee CDEP workers Build a critical mass of trained Anangu youth workers in the Umoona Aboriginal community (involve TAFE and FAYS) Keep records on participants; run activities specific to the needs of the disadvantaged and for confidence building; strengthen Anangu culture and identity; improve school attendance and employment opportunities; foster Anangu children and young people's community participation.

Target group: Aboriginal young people (4-25)

Coverage: Coober Pedy

Timeframe: Stronger Families and Communities funding from Jan 2002 -2004

Responsible agency: Department of Human Services - Aboriginal Services Division

Website: www.dhs.sa.gov.au
**Independent Living Program**

To provide young people at risk with information and skills in independent living and provide them an opportunity to assess their skill level and readiness for independent living.

Target group: 14-15

Coverage: Metropolitan

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Human Services - Country and Disability Services - FAYS

Website: [www.dhs.sa.gov.au](http://www.dhs.sa.gov.au)

**Mentoring**

Pre-vocational training and remedial education. Self development focusing on social responsibility and social competence.

Target group: 12-18

Coverage: Metropolitan

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Human Services - Country and Disability Services - FAYS

Website: [www.dhs.sa.gov.au](http://www.dhs.sa.gov.au)

**Reboot**

Aims to:

- provide SACE accredited educational and employment opportunities
- improve emotional mental health outcomes
- provide greater awareness of counselling and other available resources.
- provide skills development in anger management, negotiation and problem solving
- increase the level of community support, through interagency collaboration, to youth at risk of offending.

Target group: 15-17

Coverage: Metropolitan

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Human Services - Metropolitan Division

Website: [www.dhs.sa.gov.au](http://www.dhs.sa.gov.au)

**School Sport Program in partnership with SAPSASA and SASSSA**

Sport programs are supported by volunteers in after hours activity

Target group: All students

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Education, Training and Employment: (Country
**Schools**
Website: [www.dete.sa.gov.au](http://www.dete.sa.gov.au)

**Special Programs for Youth**
Pre-vocational training and remedial education. Self development focusing on social responsibility and social competence.

- **Target group:** 15-18
- **Coverage:** Metropolitan
- **Timeframe:** Ongoing
- **Responsible agency:** Department of Human Services - Country and Disability Services - FAYS

Website: [www.dhs.sa.gov.au](http://www.dhs.sa.gov.au)

**Aboriginal Youth Accommodation Options Working Group (Bail Options)**
Accommodation option for Aboriginal youth aged 10-18 years both on and off bail.

- **Target group:** Aboriginal youth aged 10-18 years
- **Coverage:** Metro and Port Augusta
- **Timeframe:** 12 Month Pilot
- **Responsible agency:** Department of Human Services - Aboriginal Services Division with FAYS

Website: [www.dhs.sa.gov.au](http://www.dhs.sa.gov.au)

**Family and Community Development Program**
Grants provision targeting young people who are marginalised and vulnerable as result of life circumstances, unemployment, homelessness, offending, drug and alcohol abuse and violent behaviour. The major objective for the Family and Community Development Services funding is to enable families to provide a caring environment for their children which protects them from neglect, harm, abuse and exploitation, and ensures they are not disadvantaged and allows them to reach their full potential.

- **Target group:** At risk young people
- **Coverage:** State wide
- **Timeframe:** Ongoing
- **Responsible agency:** Department of Human Services - Metropolitan Division

Website: [www.dhs.sa.gov.au](http://www.dhs.sa.gov.au)

**Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP)**
The aim of SAAP is to assist: * People who are homeless and in crisis * People who are at imminent risk of becoming homeless * People who are experiencing domestic violence and are homeless in crisis, or at imminent risk of becoming homeless.

- **Target group:** Youth specific component
- **Coverage:** State wide
- **Timeframe:** Ongoing
Responsible agency: Department of Human Services - Metro Division
Website: www.dhs.sa.gov.au

active8 Premier’s Youth Challenge

active8 provides training and community participation opportunities for young South Australians through partnerships between schools, community, youth organisations and young people.

active8 promotes in young people leadership, team work, community service, individual responsibility, self-reliance and confidence, skills development, respect for others and communication skills.

Twenty service providers work in partnership with host organisations to deliver the program in places as geographically diverse as Allendale East, Keith Loxton, Streaky Bay and Coober Pedy.

The broad range of service providers includes: Air Force Cadets, Air Youth, Army and Navy Cadet Corps, Carclew Youth Arts Centre, Conservation Volunteers Australia, Country Fire Service, Police, Red Cross, Royal Life Saving, Surf Life Saving, Scouts and Guides, State Emergency Service and St John Ambulance. The active8 Premier’s Youth Challenge is an initiative in which the partnerships between government, the community sector and the private sector provide significant benefits for the young people of South Australia.

Target group: 15-19 year olds not engaged in formal education and year 8-12 students in government and non-government schools

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: December 2003

Responsible agency: Department of Education, Training and Employment-Office of Employment and Youth
Website: www.dete.sa.gov.au

Monarto Zoo Project

A partnership between the Lower Murray Cluster of schools and the Monarto Zoological Park. Supported by a funded Education Officer. Students undertake learning activities at the zoo including projects in revegetation, land care management, construction, as well as animal related skills. Students receive accreditation towards SACE or VET certification.

Target group: Primary and secondary students in the Lower Murray Cluster of schools

Coverage: Lower Murray

Timeframe: Education Officer is funded for 3 years

Responsible agency: Department of Education, Training and Employment: (Country Schools)
Website: www.dete.sa.gov.au

Operation Flinders

Operation Flinders Inc. operates a wilderness program, in the Flinders Ranges which supports secondary students who are at risk of not completing their schooling and who have behavioural issues. Program aims to improve student's involvement in education, training and employment through the development of personal attitudes
and values of self-esteem, motivation, team work and community responsibility.

Target group: 14-18 year olds at risk of not completing schooling and who have behavioural issues.

Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Education, Training and Employment-Student and Professional Services
Website: www.dete.sa.gov.au

**Young People, Crime Prevention and the Arts Initiative**

Arts SA in partnership with the Office of Crime Prevention (Justice Portfolio) is developing a joint initiative targeting young people "at risk", using arts activity (eg drama, contemporary music, or visual art) as the medium.

The objective is to offer high quality opportunities for young people to explore and express their creativity and their aspirations, provide pathways to employment and other community support systems, and to demonstrate to young people that their contributions are valued and respected. To be jointly funded initially by Arts SA and the Office of Crime Prevention.

Target group: 10-18 years
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: In operation by June 2002
Responsible agency: Arts SA and the Office of Crime Prevention
Website: www.arts.sa.gov.au

**Youth initiatives**

- Youth section of OCBA’s Website
- ‘Before you Splash your Cash’ brochure

OCBA does not have any specific initiatives to address these recommendations however there are a range of packages which can be incorporated in bigger strategies. Eg, OCBA maintains a range of financial, renting and purchasing advice specifically aimed at younger people who are trying to make their respective ways in late teens or early adulthood.

OCBA is also a regular contributor to school curriculum work on consumer-related issues by providing materials and presentations. OCBA can provide supporting information to teachers who want to equip students with basic personal survival and life skills in the areas mentioned above as well as provide presentations to groups of students and has regularly done so in the school environment.

Target group: Any age
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible agency: Office of Consumer and Business Affairs (OCBA) - AGD
Website: www.justice.sa.gov.au

**Blue Light**
This is a collaborative program between the State Govt, Blue Light Inc and volunteers in the community. Discos and other youth initiatives operate under Blue Light including 2 adventure-based camps. The programs aims to promote feelings of self-worth and self-motivation and respect for other people and their property, in the process of strengthening the ties between the police and young people.

Target group: 12-18 years
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: South Australia Police
Website: www.sapolice.sa.gov.au

Navigator Project

Collaborative project between State Govt, Passenger Transport Board, Adelaide City Council and Central Workers with Youth Action Network aims to reduce the number of young people stranded or at risk in the inner city, particularly overnight. The project provides free public transport, to ensure less young people stay in the city overnight and encourages better relations with police, youth workers and other young people.

Target group: 18 years or under
Coverage: Inner city
Timeframe:

Responsible agency: South Australia Police, Crime Prevention Unit - AGD, Adelaide Council Local Crime Prevention Committee Program
Website: www.sapolice.sa.gov.au
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 18

New South Wales

Industry Education Advisory Committees

The NSW Department of Education and Training established Industry Education Advisory Committees (IEACs) for each of the 40 government school districts. The purpose of each committee is to plan and direct vocational education and training within the district to provide flexible and accessible vocational educational and training pathways of quality and relevance in for students in government secondary schools.

Target group: All government secondary school students.

Coverage: 40 government schools districts.

Timeframe: Ongoing.

Responsibility Agency: NSW Department of Education and Training

Website: www.det.nsw.gov.au

e-Summer Schools Project

The e-Summer Schools project is the result of a NSW Government and industry partnership. e-Summer Schools provide students from socio-economically disadvantaged areas with up to date training in Information and Communications Technology (ICT) skills and related industry experience for three weeks during the January school holidays. Course work is at TAFE campuses.

On successful completion of the course, the students are awarded certificates of competency that could lead to further study in the ICT industry.

Target group: 300 government school students in Years 9, 10 and 11 in socio-economically disadvantaged areas.

The targeted students generally do not have easy access to computers outside schools and have an interest in employment using information communications technologies. Particular efforts have been made to attract girls and Aboriginal students to e-Summer Schools.

Coverage: 20 e-Summer Schools at 15 TAFE campuses across the State.

Timeframe: Piloted in January 2002 and expected to be ongoing.

Responsible agency: NSW Department of Education and Training.

Website: www.det.nsw.gov.au

Links to Learning Community Grants Program

The Links to Learning Community Grants Program requires funded community organisations to design personalised programs around the needs and interests of the young person, and to develop strategies that involve relevant sporting, arts and civic
activities. Funded organisations include registered training organisations, local councils, adult education colleges, who are able to provide next step options which build on key competency development.

The Links to Learning Community Grants Program uses the expertise and networks of community organisations to locate and motivate young people at risk. This includes streeetwork strategies based in local youth centres and other locations where young people meet. The community based organisations work with the young person, family and other organisations to provide co-ordinated intensive support to the young person.

Funded organisations assist young people to develop Participation and Pathways Plans. These plans contain individual goals related to the development of the key competencies and the initial steps of a pathways plan that describe how the young people will access and remain in education or accredited training after the Program.

Target group: Young people who are alienated from mainstream institutions and organisations.

Coverage: Areas across the State based on an assessment of needs and quality program submissions.

Timeframe: Ongoing, individual projects are reviewed regularly.

Responsible agency: NSW Department of Education and Training.

Website: www.det.nsw.gov.au/eas/youth
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 18

Tasmania

**Sport and Recreation Projects**

Grants Program available to not-for-profit sport and recreation organisations, local government, community groups and trusts that provide sport and recreational services for the community.

- **Coverage:** State wide
- **Timeframe:** 2002-2003
- **Responsible Agency:** Office of Sport and Recreation
- **Website:** [www.osr.tas.gov.au](http://www.osr.tas.gov.au)

**Community partnerships**

State government commitment to developing stronger and healthier communities and fostering partnerships between State and local government and local communities. Example includes Skate Park development in the housing department area of the City of Clarence, where one in four people are aged between 0-14 years

- **Coverage:** State wide community initiated projects
- **Timeframe:** 2002-2003
- **Responsible Agency:** Housing Tasmania

**Department of Education - a sample of programs**

**Mission Impossible**

The flexibly delivered course delivered by Beacon Foundation in partnership with Elizabeth College. The course is designed to bridge the divide between college, students and employers. It is a ten week program aimed at developing general employability skills. Similar programs are operating State wide in high schools and colleges

**We Want to Work Program**

This program has the goals of zero unemployment in the Launceston Area. As an holistic alternative to traditional schooling it provides a flexible environment where young at risk students can access support. The program prepares for work and life with a mixture of education, training and life experiences.

**No Dole**

Nationally recognised program initiated by Brooks High School whereby students sign a No dole charter and are supported by local businesses to engage in a range of support programs leading to employment or further education and training.
MARSS Program

Supports schools in managing students whose behaviour is of serious concern and to maintain these students at school. Particular attention is given to students who had a record of multiple suspensions or exclusions, were chronic non attendees and were identified as at risk and disadvantaged.

Website: [www.education.tas.gov.au](http://www.education.tas.gov.au)
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 18

Western Australia

Students at Educational Risk (SAER) Strategy, Making the Difference

Strategy includes a WA Department of Education initiated Community and Interagency Participation focus area to develop partnerships in relation to at-risk students.

- Target group: K - Year 12
- Coverage: State wide
- Timeframe: Ongoing
- Responsible Agency: Department of Education
- Website: www.eddept.wa.edu.au

VET In Schools

By 2002 all 16 education districts to have Enterprise and Vocational Education Co-ordinators to create partnerships.

- Target group: Yr 8 - 12
- Coverage: State wide
- Timeframe: Ongoing
- Responsible Agency: Department of Education
- Website: www.eddept.wa.edu.au

Regional Access

Regional Access is an interactive website providing young people in regional Western Australia with improved access to regional employment / training services, career planning advice and general youth services.

- Target group: Young people in regional Western Australia
- Coverage: State wide
- Timeframe: Ongoing
- Responsible agency: Department of Training
- Website: www.training.wa.gov.au

Competitively Allocated Training (CAT)

Through its youth at risk stream, the program provides support for vocational education and training (VET) providers to implement upper secondary education and VET programs.
Target group: Youth at risk
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible agency: Department of Training
Website: www.training.wa.gov.au
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 18

Australian Capital Territory

Full Service Schools

A number of programs have been established as part of the Full Service Schools Program for Students at Risk, a program that was funded till June 2001 by the Department of Education, Training and Youth Affairs. A Full Service Schools Unit was established in the ACT Department of Education and Community Services to manage and co-ordinate projects funded under the scheme.

The following projects were established.

- 'Preparing yourself for the future', a six to eight week course designed for young people who have dropped out, or are about to drop out of school. It is based around the transition period from Year 10 to Year 11.
- 'The Bay', offering students at the largest ACT secondary college, on-site access to a range of health and community support services.
- Alternative Community Education (ACE) Program, a part-time and casual work skills program run in partnership with the HTC Vocational Institute Pty Ltd and Westfield Shopping Town. The program provides training in customer service, application and curriculum vitae development, management and organisational skills, occupational health and safety, interview skills and business operation skills.
- Youth Initiatives Program, which provides a tailored program for individual students involving community groups and youth agencies in the support of the young people.

Target Group: Students at risk

Coverage: Territory wide

Timeframe: Ongoing as funding allows

Responsible agency: ACT Department of Education and Community Services, DEST

Contact Information: Community Partnerships, (02) 6205 8533,


Gugan Gulwan Indigenous Youth Centre

A High School Support Centre has been established to provide a pro-active early intervention program for families with adolescent children who are experiencing family conflict and/or dealing with issues such as substance abuse. The program focuses on young people aged 16 and under. It has the resources to intervene within 48 hours providing high intensity family mediation and counselling, and the capacity for ongoing follow up to manage and prevent the escalation of family crisis.

Target Group: Indigenous young people aged 12-25

Coverage: Territory wide
Extension of Youth Connection Youth Work Service

The Youth Connection Service provides a specialised family counselling service for 60 at-risk families, in order to support improvements in the level of resilience in these families.

Target Group: At risk families

Coverage: Territory wide

Timeframe: Ongoing as funding allows

Responsible Agency: ACT Department of Education and Community Services

Contact Information: Gugan Gulwan Youth Aboriginal Corporation, (02) 6295 8500

Website: [www.decs.act.gov.au](http://www.decs.act.gov.au)

Reclink - Recreation support program for at-risk youth.

A community-based program has been established to provide accessible sport, recreation, and support programs for at-risk youth. The program will work intensively with young people to increase community participation and encourage the constructive use of leisure time. The target group includes young people aged between 12 and 25 years who are at risk of homelessness, substance abuse, being victims of crime, or becoming involved in the youth justice system.

Target Group: Young people aged 12-25

Coverage: Territory wide

Timeframe: Ongoing as funding allows

Responsible Agency: ACT Department of Education and Community Services

Website: [www.decs.act.gov.au](http://www.decs.act.gov.au)
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 18

Commonwealth

Deadly Vibe promotions

The promotion of the National Indigenous English Literacy and Numeracy Strategy, Indigenous education programmes and the Ambassadors Programme through a targeted Indigenous youth magazine. The magazine assists to increase the awareness of these policies and programmes to the wider Indigenous community, educators and students.

Target Group: Indigenous young people
Coverage: National.
Timeframe: August 2000 - August 2002
Contact: Branch Manager
Indigenous Programme Delivery Branch
Ph: (02) 6240 5055
Website: www.vibe.com.au

Responsible Agency: Department of Education, Science and Training

ECEF - WADU Indigenous Youth Partnerships Initiatives

The Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST) has provided funding to the Enterprise and Career Education Foundation (ECEF) to manage and deliver the Wadu Indigenous Youth Partnership Initiative (IYPI) from June 2000 to the end of 2002. IYPI builds onto ECEF's existing Wadu strategy.

Wadu IYPI is addressing young Indigenous people's relative disadvantage in education, training and employment. This involves a 'whole of community' approach to supporting Indigenous youth to remain at or return to school, and provides a reliable pathway from schooling to training and employment and onto independence. IYPI complements and forms part of the broader Federal Government's National Indigenous English Literacy and Numeracy Strategy.

To May 2002, twenty IYPI projects had been run nation-wide with the two most recent additions being in the Cape York and Newcastle regions under a model of collaboration between ECEF, DEST, the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR), Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC), Family and Community Services (FaCS) and the Department of Health and Ageing.

Target Group: Indigenous Young People
Coverage: National
Timeframe: June 2000 - December 2002
Contact: Branch Manager
Indigenous Policy Development and Co-ordination Branch
Ph: (02) 6240 7720
CROC Eisteddfod Festivals

Two to three day events that primarily promote a drug and alcohol free environment, and provide an opportunity for sponsors to conduct career marketing expos.

Target Group: Indigenous Young People

Coverage: In 2002 seven festivals have been proposed at Weipa, Nhulunbuy, Kununurra, Kalgoorlie, Port Augusta, Swan Hill and Moree.

Timeframe: Funded on a yearly basis

Contact: Branch Manager
Indigenous Programme Delivery Branch
Ph: (02) 6240 5055

Website: www.crocfestivals.org.au

Discovering Democracy

The Government's civics and citizenship education programme, Discovering Democracy, aims to help students understand Australia's democratic heritage, the operation of our political and legal system and the principles that support Australian democracy and civic life. Discovering Democracy supports the National Goals for Schooling in the Twenty-first Century agreed by all Education Ministers in Australia. These state, in part, that students, when they leave school, should "be active and informed citizens with an understanding and appreciation of Australia's system of government and civic life. Discovering Democracy includes funding for curriculum resources, teacher professional development and strategic national activities.

Target Group: Primary and secondary school students (particularly students in Years 4-10).

Geographical Coverage: National

Timeframe: May 1997-June 2004

Contact details:
Director
Languages and Civics Education Section
Department of Education, Science and Training
Ph: 02 6240 7129

Initiative Website address: http://www.civicsandcitizenship.edu.au

Stronger Families and Communities Strategy

The Stronger Families and Communities Strategy is a program intended to strengthen local communities and families through a range of linked initiatives. Youth are targeted under the Strategy, particularly through the following measures:

- the Potential Leaders in Local Communities initiative aims to develop skills, opportunities and support for potential community leaders, including helping young people to become leaders amongst their peers and future community leaders.
leaders;
- the Local Solutions to Local Problems initiative helps communities to develop their own responses to local issues and in the process increase their capacity to deal with similar or other issues in the future. This could include engaging young people in the community by providing access to facilities or resources, helping young people to access support and information or helping young people in educational environments;
- young mothers can also benefit from the Stronger Families Fund which encourages coordination and integration of local services to help communities to find new ways to strengthen families, focusing on early childhood development and effective parenting; and
- the Early Intervention Parenting and Family Relationship Support initiative can also benefit young parents through parenting skills education and playgroups, as well as help young people experiencing family conflict through family counselling.

53 local projects directly benefit young people. These projects have been funded under the Potential Leaders initiative (19 projects), the Local Solutions initiative (16 projects) and Early Intervention Parenting and Family Relationship Support (11 projects). The 53 projects also include 6 projects of national significance.

Target Group: Families and communities generally, youth are targeted as described above.

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Community Branch, FaCS
Phone: 02 6212 9159

Website: www.facs.gov.au/sfcs/index.htm

Responsible Agency: Family and Community Services

National Youth Week

National Youth Week is an annual Commonwealth, State and Territory Government youth initiative, coordinated by the Youth Bureau in collaboration with the departments responsible for youth affairs in all States and Territories.

The theme of National Youth Week (NYW) is to "celebrate and recognise the value of all young Australians to their communities". In pursuit of this theme, NYW aims to:

- showcase young peoples' talents, contributions and achievements;
- promote a positive image of young people;
- ensure youth participation in planning and development of all NYW activities;
- acknowledge the common interests of young people as well as their diverse backgrounds and circumstances; and
- enable young people to express their ideas and be listened to.

The Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs (MCEETYA) delegated responsibility for the planning, development and delivery of NYW to a National Planning Group (NPG), which consists of youth affairs officers representing the Commonwealth, State and Territory Governments. At a national level, to ensure youth participation in the planning and development of NYW, six National Youth Representatives are also appointed to the NPG. These young people play a vital role in directing the shape and success of NYW and ensuring the relevance and vitality of events and activities.

The national website (www.youthweek.com) is the focal point for major NYW
activities including: four national online talent competitions, RockIT (music), WriteIT (writing), ShootIT (video) and DesignIT (digital art); chat sessions with young Australian achievers; the chance to win prizes in the 'Win Free Stuff' competitions; online polls; messages from all Youth Ministers; and a comprehensive calendar of events and activities held within every State and Territory. The Youth Bureau's Multi Media Unit plays an integral part in the development and support of the above activities to achieve a seamless and high quality product.

The Commonwealth is seeking to build on the success of NYW 2002 and maximise the positive outcomes to deliver an enhanced event in 2003. The fourth NYW will be held in April 2003.

Target Group: Young people
Coverage: National
Timeframe: Ongoing
Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Youth Bureau, Programs Branch, FaCS
Ph: 02 62129437
facs.internet@facs.gov.au
Website: www.youthweek.com

Responsible agency: Family and Community Services

**Australians Working Together**

*Australians Working Together - Helping people to move forward* is a major package of initiatives offering significant support and services to help people to help themselves. Young job seekers will benefit from many *Australians Working Together (AWT)* initiatives announced in the 2001-02 Budget. Young people will also benefit from the improvements to employment services under *AWT*.

*AWT* builds on the Government's employment assistance and mutual obligation policies that have attracted widespread support amongst participants and the broader community.

The new system is providing improved personalised assessment and service, more opportunities for training and work experience, better incentives, and reasonable requirements for people to find work, increase their earnings or contribute to their communities.

Centrelink will be the gateway to the new system. Centrelink Personal Advisers will provide a high level of service to people needing additional help to overcome personal or other barriers.

Under *AWT* young people will have access to more places in Literacy and Numeracy Training, Job Search Training, and Work for the Dole and can earn Training Credits by participating in Work for the Dole and Community Work. Vulnerable and at risk young people will benefit from the better assessment processes in Intensive Assistance and the linkages between Intensive Assistance and other programmes.

Young people will also benefit from other initiatives such as the Working Credit (which encourages people on income support to take up full-time, substantial part-time or casual work) and the new Personal Support Programme (designed to help people with problems such as homelessness, and drug and alcohol addiction) that replaces the Community Support Programme.

Coverage: National
Timeframe: July 2001 - June 2005
Contact details: together@dewrsb.gov.au

Initiative Website address: http://www.together.gov.au/

Responsible Agency: Shared policy responsibility between Family and Community Services, Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, and Department of Education, Science and Training

'Reconnect' (formerly Youth Homelessness Early Intervention Program)

Reconnect provides early intervention support to young people aged 12 to 18 who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and their families. The objectives of Reconnect is to improve the level of engagement of homeless young people, or those at risk of homelessness, with family, work, education, training and the community. As at March 2002, 93 Reconnect services are operating nationally and a further 7 are being established through community development processes. This will bring the total number of Reconnect services to 100.

Six Reconnect services specifically focus on Indigenous young people, their families and communities. The Department is working with an additional seven Indigenous communities in remote, rural and metropolitan areas to establish specific services to address the needs of local young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their families.

Target Group: Young people aged 12 to 18 who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and their families

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Youth Bureau, Programs Branch, FaCS
Ph: 02 62129437
facs.internet@facs.gov.au

Website: www.facs.gov.au

Responsible Agency: Family and Community Services

Youth Activities Services Program

The Youth Activities Services Program consists of Youth Activities Services (YAS) and YAS Family Liaison Workers (FLW.)

The YAS provide activities, generally after school, to adolescents living in disadvantaged areas. The YAS program supports young people and their families through offering positive peer support and creative and challenging alternatives to activities that place young people at risk. The program helps to prevent young people from developing and continuing with patterns of behaviour that place them at risk of disconnecting from their families and community and which may have long term effects on their family relationships, schooling and labour force participation.

The FLW program supports young people and their families by helping them deal with issues affecting their well being as a family through offering positive practical support and guidance. The FLW fills an identified service gap between YAS and other intensive support and counselling services currently available.

Target Group: Young people aged 11-16 years living in disadvantaged areas, who still live at home and attend school. 19 YAS/FLW services identify Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people as their target group.

Coverage: There are 90 YAS and 83 FLWs across Australia
Innovative and Collaborative Youth Servicing Pilots (ICYS)

The ICYS Pilot Projects will promote more effective collaboration among service providers at the local community level and encourage greater ownership and accountability by communities for initiatives designed to assist young people. Projects will be required to test avenues of cooperation between and across Commonwealth/State/local government policies and programmes and community initiatives in order to deliver more effective services and improved outcomes for young people.

Target Group: Young people aged 12-25 are the target group for the pilots, although variation to the age range will be considered in response to local conditions.

Coverage: Around 25 pilots in a variety of urban, rural and remote locations will be funded across Australia.

Timeframe: Pilots are planned to commence in May/June 2002

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Youth Bureau, Programs Branch, FaCS
Ph: 02 62129437
facs.internet@facs.gov.au
Website: www.facs.gov.au

Responsible Agency: Family and Community Services

Job Placement, Employment and Training Programme (JPET)

JPET provides a holistic approach to assisting young people overcome problems preventing them from maintaining stable accommodation and entering into full-time education, training or employment.

JPET offers ongoing support and referral services to young people to help them overcome a range of problems, including housing, substance abuse, family difficulties, sexual or other abuse, lack of self esteem, income support, and other barriers to employment, education or training.

The most common strategies implemented across all target groups were personal support, job search assistance and training assistance. Income advocacy and financial assistance were also common strategies;

Target Group: JPET assists students and unemployed young people between 15-21 years who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless (with priority to be given to those aged 15-19 and to homeless young people). Assistance is also provided to young people who are/or have been wards of the State, are refugees or have been in the juvenile justice system.

Coverage: 136 agencies are contracted to deliver services throughout Australia

Timeframe: Ongoing
The Mentor Marketplace

The goal of Mentor Marketplace is to assist young people realise their full potential by:

- connecting them to the working world and the concept of lifelong learning;
- stimulating a mentoring culture in business, schools and communities;
- kick-starting mentoring projects in higher-risk schools and communities; and
- engaging them in skill-sharing and peer-mentoring opportunities.

The Mentor Marketplace will complement existing programs being run primarily by the community sector (often in cooperation with business and only sometimes with government funding) and will consist of two elements:

i. a high profile national mentoring partnership which brings together and acknowledges existing mentoring projects; promotes good practice; facilitates an exchange of ideas, and funds research, workshops and conferences, and
ii. 'making mentoring happen', which involves kick-starting mentoring projects in communities and areas that do not currently have such projects operating for secondary students and early school-leavers and, in those communities that do have such projects, helping them grow.

Mentors will be selected using processes already established by community organisations, including obligatory interviews and police checks.

On a service delivery level, the Commonwealth will work with key non-government organisations to implement this initiative. As part of this process, a consultative seminar was held in August 2001 with non government agencies involved in mentoring, such as Dusseldorp, The Smith Family, BigHart, The Salvation Army, Bank of Ideas, to name only a few. It resulted in a range of ideas on what works well in mentoring and suggestions on the role the Government could most usefully play in delivering the Mentor Marketplace program.

Similar meetings with business are planned to be held over the coming months to forge closer cooperation with business in relation to youth issues and stimulate interest within business around mentoring in general and the Mentor Marketplace initiative in particular.

Target Group: Young people who need assistance/ encouragement to stay connected to family, education, training and the workplace.

Coverage: National

Timeframe: 2002/03

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Youth Bureau, Programs Branch, FaCS
Ph: 02 62129437
facs.internet@facs.gov.au
Website: www.facs.gov.au
Responsible Agency: Family and Community Services
Centrelink Personal Advisers

Under Australians Working Together a range of initiatives will be available to those young jobseekers that are indigenous or have special needs. AWT draws on Centrelink's capability to provide a range of assessment tools and its brokering role to assist individuals to improve their economic and social participation in the community. It is recognised that a vast majority of programs are delivered by non-government organisations. A major change with the implementation of AWT is the introduction of 850 new Centrelink Personal Advisers, in order to ensure people's needs are assessed better, so that they get the right assistance. Centrelink Personal Advisers will provide extra help to assist some young people with special needs to get a job or participate as possible in their community. This will involve the formation of partnerships with non-government groups, outside experts and its customers to provide the right help.

Target Group: Various

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
National Manager
Youth and Student Community Segment
Centrelink
Ph: 02 6244 6269

Website: www.centrelink.gov.au/

Responsible Agency: Family and Community Services and Centrelink

National Awards for Local Government - Youth Services Category

The National Awards for Innovation in Local Government foster and acknowledge innovation and leading practice in local government. The awards identify and reward local government bodies, associations and other collaborating organisations who are developing and implementing innovative, resourceful practices that improve local government outcomes and help build sustainable Australian communities.

The Youth Services Category Award acknowledges innovation and excellence in the provision of youth services and amenities with an emphasis on the degree to which young people are actively engaged in their communities and encouraged to participate in policy decision-making that affects them.

The Award showcases innovations and excellence that benefit young Australians where they live, study, work and play. It also highlights projects that help young people participate actively in their communities and in the democratic institutions that service those communities as respected young citizens.

Target Group: Local government organisations.

Coverage: National


Responsible Agencies: Department of Family and Community Services and Department of Transport and Regional Services

Australians Working Together - Better Assessment and Early Intervention

The Better Assessment and Early Intervention measure provides for a greater focus on the assessment of work capacity, and the identification of early interventions with a view to maximising social and economic participation, for people who are sick, injured or have a disability. The focus will be on what people can do rather than what...
This approach is consistent with the over-arching goals of the Australians Working Together Package. Other aspects of the package, such as the introduction of Working Credit, the creation of 17,300 additional disability employment assistance places, 11,000 rehabilitation places and 5,200 vocational education and training places will complement this measure.

This initiative aims to strengthen the focus on the assessment of work capacity for Disability Support Pension (DSP) customers, and Newstart/Youth Allowance/Other customers who are temporarily incapacitated. It recognises that the current medical model of assessment may not be the best way to assess and enhance people's capacity for work, and represents a first step in the introduction of expert work capacity assessments for this purpose.

The new assessment arrangements, to be introduced in September 2002, will provide an integrated process that informs determinations of income support eligibility, and helps to identify appropriate early interventions (such as rehabilitation and disability employment assistance), with a view to minimising welfare dependence wherever possible.

The measure recognises that work capacity assessments and referrals to services should be targeted to customers who are most likely to benefit from early intervention - that is, those who are likely to establish or maintain workforce attachment with this assistance.

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Participation Support Branch, FaCS
Ph: (02) 62448563
facs.internet@facs.gov.au

Website: www.together.gov.au

Responsible Agency: Family and Community Services

Preparing for Work Agreements

All job seekers claiming Newstart or Youth Allowance (other) must negotiate and sign a Preparing for Work Agreement with Centrelink. The Preparing for Work Agreement is designed to give job seekers a plan of action tailored for their individual circumstances. The agreement also allows job seekers to be referred more quickly to the various mutual obligation programmes as they become eligible.

The Preparing for Work Agreement is an activity agreement under the Social Security Act 1991 and as such applies to those people in receipt of Newstart or Youth Allowance (other).

A wide range of activities may be included in a Preparing for Work Agreement. These activities may include, minimum job search requirements, job seeker diary lodgement, Work for the Dole, Intensive Assistance, Literacy and Numeracy Training, part time work, part-time study and voluntary work.

Target Group: All job seekers

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Participation Support Branch, FaCS
Ph: (02) 62448563
Mutual Obligation

Mutual obligation applies to all job seekers who are receiving unemployment payments (Newstart and Youth Allowance (other)). In particular, job seekers aged 18 to 24 years who have been on unemployment payments for 6 months, and those aged 25 to 34 years who have been on unemployment payments for 12 months.

From 1 July 2002 all job seekers aged between 18 and 49 years will be required to nominate a mutual obligation activity at the six month point of their unemployment.

Since 1 July 2000, job seekers have been required to enter into a Preparing for Work Agreement when they claim unemployment payments. As part of the Preparing for Work Agreement, job seekers are required to nominate which mutual obligation activity they will undertake when they have been unemployed for six months. The list of activities available includes, part-time work, Work for the Dole, and Literacy and Numeracy training.

Target Group: Job seekers in receipt of an unemployment payment aged 18 to 34 years (18-49 years from July 2002)

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Participation Support Branch, FaCS
Ph: (02) 62448563
facs.internet@facs.gov.au

Website: www.facs.gov.au

Responsible Agency: Shared policy responsibility between Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, the Department of Family and Community Services and the Department of Education, Science and Training.

Australians Working Together - Work for the Dole

The main objective of the Work for the Dole programme is to give unemployed people worthwhile work experience opportunities in projects of value to local communities.

A secondary objective of the programme is to allow unemployed people to satisfy their mutual obligation in return for their unemployment payments, by giving something back to the community which supports them. The Government's mutual obligation policy encourages more active job search and participation in activities which improve their work skills and habits.

Under Australians Working Together there will be an additional 16,500 Work for the Dole places for 2002 to 2005 for job seekers through Community Work Coordinators. Each participant will receive personal training that covers resume development, providing written references and updating job seeker skills in the last week of Work for the Dole. Training credits, of up to $800 are also being introduced for job seekers who meet minimum attendance and participation requirements. Training Credits can be used to pay for vocational training.

Target Group: Certain types of job seekers may be required to participate in Work for the Dole, if they are not fulfilling their mutual obligation through other means, for six months in each twelve months that they remain eligible. The following people
Six months in each twelve months that they remain eligible. The following people may be required to participate in Work for the Dole if they are on the full rate of unemployment payments:

- 18 to 19 year old Year 12 school leavers who have been receiving Youth Allowance as a job seeker for three months or more;
- 18 to 24 year old job seekers who have been receiving Newstart or Youth Allowance for six months or more; and
- 25 to 34 year old job seekers who have been receiving Newstart Allowance for 12 months or more.

From 1 July 2002, for job seekers 18-49 years, Mutual Obligation applies after 6 months on unemployment payments. For 18-39 year olds, Work for the Dole will be mandatory if they do not participate in another Mutual Obligation activity. For job seekers aged 40-49 years, participation in Work for the Dole will be voluntary.

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing

Website: [www.dewr.gov.au](http://www.dewr.gov.au)

Responsible Agency: Department of Employment and Workplace Relations

**Australians Working Together - Community Work**

The Community Work Programme aims to improve eligible job seekers work skills and work experience by actively engaging them with their local labour market and community. Community Work is voluntary work undertaken by job seekers who are registered with and monitored by a Community Work Coordinator. It should be of benefit to the community and the Community Work participant.

From 1 July 2002, job seekers will be able to elect to participate in Community Work to fulfil their Mutual Obligation. Job seekers that elect to participate in Community Work gain valuable work experience and on the job training. The purpose of this work experience and training is to improve the job seekers employment prospects.

Each participant will receive personal training that covers resume development, providing written references and updating job seeker skills. Training credits, of up to $800 are also being introduced for job seekers who meet minimum attendance and participation requirements.

Target Group: All job seekers

Timeframe: From 1 July 2002

Website: [www.dewr.gov.au](http://www.dewr.gov.au)

Responsible Agency: Department of Employment and Workplace Relations

**Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Youth Health**

A number of specific programs or components of programs address Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth health issues at the population health, community, and family level. These programs include:

- Substance misuse programs specifically targeting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth are being delivered within a number of Indigenous substance use services and primary health care services.
- The National 3 on 3 Street Basketball Challenge for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth recognises the need for organised activity for young people which is safe, commonly popular and which requires little expense, training and equipment. Funding is provided for community controlled health services to conduct specific health promotion activities and promotion of the event when it comes to their community.
There are also specific petrol sniffing programs funded which target Indigenous young people in rural and remote communities as a result of the extent and nature of petrol sniffing and other volatile substance use.

Target Group: Indigenous young people in general and those at risk of drug and alcohol use, and the broader Indigenous community.

Coverage:

Timeframe:

Responsible Agency: Department of Health and Ageing

Website: www.health.gov.au

**National Crime Prevention Program**

The National Crime Prevention Program's objectives are to identify and promote innovative ways of reducing and preventing crime and the fear of crime. The program includes both research and practical initiatives including national pilot projects, local prevention activities and communication and training initiatives. Priority issues include property crime; domestic and family violence and violence in Indigenous communities. A significant proportion of National Crime Prevention Program (NCP) funding is for early intervention initiatives with young people and their families under the Youth Crime and Families Strategy.

National projects focusing on young people include those addressing public space, public events, domestic violence, truancy, bullying, early intervention and homeless youth. Research reports are already available on the domestic violence, early intervention, homelessness and use of public space.

To date key youth related initiatives under the programme include:

- **Research Reports**
    The report highlights the importance of targeting multiple risk and protective factors at critical transition points in a young person's developmental life cycle.
  - "Living Rough - Preventing Crime and Victimisation Among Homeless Young People" (Jaffe R, Szirom T, 1998)
    This project classifies examples of current service delivery to homeless and disadvantaged young people, identifies and develops measures for evaluating the successful practices and strategies which address both the victimisation and the offending rates of young homeless people, and depicts the outcomes resulting from these strategies.
  - "Hanging Out - Negotiating Young People's Use of Public Space" (White R, University of Melbourne, 1998)
    This report is based on research completed by Associate Professor Rob White of the University of Melbourne. The research involved a mapping of existing initiatives and approaches, and the identification of key themes and good practice.
  - The Western Australian Aboriginal Child Health Survey
    The NCP has committed funding to this joint project with other Commonwealth departments and State agencies in Western Australia. It will be undertaken by the TVW Telethon Institute for Child Health Research. The Survey is designed to provide the State and Commonwealth governments, the ATSIC Regional Councils and Aboriginal Controlled Health Organisations with planning data similar in quality and relevance to the information that is currently available in industrialised parts of Australia.
relation to non-Indigenous children.

- **Early Intervention - Youth Crime and Families Strategy**
  Building on the Pathways research, the Government committed funding to the Youth Crime and Families Strategy for work on early intervention and the prevention of youth crime. Early intervention is a priority for the NCP. Accordingly, the Program undertakes work aimed at early intervention in a number of areas related to young people who are at risk of becoming involved in crime or anti-social behaviour, and their families.

- **Two early intervention demonstration projects have been funded, one in South Australia and one in the Redfern Waterloo area of Sydney, NSW.**

- **Investing in our Youth - Bunbury, WA**
  The NCP has committed funding to the Bunbury Investing in our Youth project - an early intervention initiative aimed at ensuring the resources of the community are used strategically and effectively in creating an environment that supports the healthy development of children and young people.

- **Bullying**
  Bullying impacts on students' physical and psychological health, educational attainment and social development. Bullying behaviour can also indicate subsequent anti-social and criminal behaviour. The NCP is funding research and development into the most effective ways to prevent and stop bullying in pre-school and in the early primary years. This is a unique approach in focusing on these pre school and early primary school students. Once the most effective anti-bullying strategies are identified, the project will develop information resources to help teachers, parents and carers prevent and address bullying in schools.

- **'Croc' Festivals**
  The Commonwealth is committed to working with grass roots Indigenous organisations to achieve innovative solutions to problems experienced by, and promote effective communication among, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. The Croc Eisteddfod Festivals have been developed in concert with the Rock Eisteddfod challenge since 1998. Both events focus on having fun in a drug and alcohol free environment. However, the Croc Festivals place greater emphasis on community partnerships.

- **National Review of Juvenile Diversion**
  Through the NCP, the Commonwealth Government has commissioned a national profile of diversion programs.

- **Mentoring**
  The NCP is commissioning a national profile and a literature review on mentoring programs for young offenders. The profiling will include an analysis of the factors that contribute to the successful operation of mentoring programs and it is expected that the literature review will detail evaluations of established programs both nationally and internationally.

- **Prisoners and their Families**
  Children of prisoners across Australia now have the opportunity to develop a more meaningful relationship with their imprisoned parent as a result of a national pilot program funded under the NCP. The national program, managed by Good Beginnings Australia Ltd, assists children and families of prisoners by, for instance, conducting early childhood development training programs for parents in prison and providing transport for children who want to visit their parents in prison.

- **Truancy and Juvenile Crime**
  There is an established relationship between juvenile crime and non-attendance at school. The Commonwealth and Tasmanian Governments have joined forces to address school truancy and its links to juvenile offending and victimisation. Each has provided funding towards an important initiative in Tasmania, which will tackle the issue of anti-social behaviour and juvenile crime by focusing on school attendance. The project uses a multi-faceted approach involving community, parents, schools and service providers.

- **Indigenous Youth Mentoring Scheme**
  The NCP and the South Australian Government have made a joint commitment to an Indigenous Youth Mentoring Scheme. This scheme is designed to divert Indigenous youth from criminal offending, crime and anti-social behaviour.
at-risk youths away from criminal behaviour by providing intensive mentoring schemes to Indigenous young people who are at early stages of their involvement in the criminal justice system. The Indigenous Youth Mentoring Scheme is part of the Commonwealth Government's commitment to capacity building in South Australia through the NCP.

- **Young People and Burglary Prevention**
  In March 2001 the ACT Government received NCP funding for three projects aimed at reducing the incidence and severity of residential burglary. Along with the Adult Offender project and the Victim Response project, the Juvenile Offender project will implement a mentoring program to reduce recidivism with forty young male offenders assessed as high-risk burglary offenders.

- **A trial of two brief interventions for cannabis problems among young offenders in NSW**
  Based on Australian and overseas research results, the project will develop and trial two brief innovative psychological interventions for adolescent cannabis users. This will increase the range of criminal justice options for a large section of the juvenile offender population, one that fills a serious gap in existing services.

- **Young People and Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction**
  In September 2001, the Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator the Hon Chris Ellison, approved funding for this project. It will be undertaken in conjunction with the National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council (NMVTRC) and state government and local industry bodies to combat motor vehicle theft by developing a good practice model to reduce motor vehicle theft that could be implemented and tested nationally. Initiatives will be funded in Tasmania, Queensland and Western Australia.

**Target Groups:** The target groups vary from project to project.

**Coverage:** National

**Timeframe:** 2000 - 2003

**Responsible Agency:** Attorney-General's Department

**Website:** [www.ags.gov.au](http://www.ags.gov.au)
Recommendation 19

The taskforce recommends that:

- the Commonwealth government work with State, Territory and local governments to ensure that:
  - community-based networks are identified in each local government area to develop localised approaches which identify and support young people not in education or employment;
  - all young people living without adequate support are linked to a local service network with an individual worker or agency assigned a key support responsibility;
  - appropriate, accessible and affordable services for young people with high needs are available in all local communities;
  - local community-based networks should assist young people with high support needs to reconnect with peers, family and community; and
  - local support services commit to delivering an integrated response to young people which offers holistic support across community and government agency jurisdictions.

Initiatives addressing Recommendation 19

Below is a compilation of initiatives, listed by State/Territory and Commonwealth, that contribute to building the foundations of support needed to promote the wellbeing, participation and identification of young people in vulnerable circumstances. In addition, you are encouraged to look at the current selection of Snapshots gathered for the State/Territory and Commonwealth initiatives targeting Recommendation 19.

Queensland

Education Queensland

- School-Community Conferencing
- Local School-Community Initiatives

Queensland Health

- HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis C and Sexual Health Website for Young People
- Young Parents Support Program
- Innovative Health Services for Homeless Young People and Health Services for Disadvantaged Young People
- Rumble in the Jungle
Department of Housing

- The Community Renewal Programs – Partnership in Prevention Project
- The Community Renewal Programs - Fostering Self-Esteem
- The Community Renewal Program – West Cairns Youth Development Project

Department of Families

- Youth at Risk Outreach Services
- Youth Crime Prevention Services
- “Which Way You Mob” Youth Project

Queensland Government

- Queensland Government Youth Suicide Prevention Strategy

Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs

- Local Justice Initiatives Program

Department of Employment and Training

- Community Employment Assistance Program
- Get Set for Work
- “Yindingi Gibar” (youth messengers) Indigenous Youth Leadership Conference 2001

Department of Corrective Services

- Youth Alcohol and Drug Action Group
- Peer Support System
- The Elder Visits Program
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Literacy Program

Victoria

Department of Education and Training

- Managed Individual Pathways
- Local Learning and Employment Networks

Department of Justice

- Pilot Bail Support Services Program
- Bridging the Gap

Department of Human Services

- Enhancing Specialist Behaviour Services - Adolescent Initiative
- Youth Services Program

Northern Territory

Northern Territory Police

- NT Police Juvenile Pre-Court Diversion Scheme – development of Community Youth Development Units (CYDU)
Department of Health and Community Services

- Youth Policy Officer Positions
- Resourcing Adolescent for Tomorrow

Department of the Chief Minister and Department of Health and Community Services

- Office of Children and Families

Department of Employment, Education and Training

- Partnership

South Australia

South Australian Youth Arts Board program

- Young People, Crime Prevention and the Arts Initiative

Department of Human Services

- Aboriginal Youth Accommodation Options Working Group Bail Options
- Family and Community Development Program
- Independent Living Support Teams

Carclew Youth Arts Centre

- Carclew Youth Arts Centre

Department of Education, Training and Employment

- Online Forum
- Youth Network Grant
- Youth Employment Program
- Youth Advisory Committee Grant Scheme
- South Australian Youth Advisory Forum “SAYit”
- Partnership and Outreach Education Models (POEMs)
- Transition Support Networks

Office of Consumer and Business Affairs (OCBA)

- Ministerial Advisory Committee on Victims of Crime

New South Wales

- Schools as Community Centres

Tasmania

Hobart City Council

- Youth Arc

Hobart City Council and Colony 47

- Reconnect
Western Australia

Department of Education
- Students at Educational Risk (SAER) Strategy, Making the Difference
- School Leaver Program
- Safety Net Making it Happen
- Joblinks
- Aboriginal School-Based Traineeship Program
- Competitively Allocated Training (CAT)
- Jobworks

Australian Capital Territory

ACT Department of Education and Community Services
- ‘Schools as Communities’ Project

Commonwealth

Department of Education, Science and Training
- Australians Working Together - Indigenous Education and Training
- Indigenous Ambassadors Programme
- Career and Transition (CATS) Pilots
- Career Counselling Programme
- Language, Literacy and Numeracy Programme (LLNP)

Department of Family and Community Services
- Stronger Families and Communities Strategy
- Reconnect
- Supported Accommodation Assistance Programme (SAAP)
- SAAP services targeted for young people
- Redevelopment of the Youth Protocol
- Collaborative Youth Services Trials
- Innovative and Collaborative Youth Servicing Pilots (ICYS)
- Jobs Placement Employment and Training (JPET)
- Personal Support Programme

Department of Family and Community Services, Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, and Department of Education, Science and Training
- Australians Working Together

Department of Family and Community Services and Department of Transport and Regional Services
- National Awards for Local Government - Youth Services Category

Department of Family and Community Services, and Centrelink
- Centrelink Community Officers and Centrelink Homebound programme

Centrelink
- Australians Working Together – Centrelink Personal Advisers
- Centrelink/South Australia – Youth Connect

**Department of Health and Ageing**

- Innovative Health Services for Homeless Youth

**Attorney-General’s Department**

- National Crime Prevention Program
- Commonwealth Community Legal Services Programme (CCLSP)
- Northern Territory Diversionary Scheme

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Sharing What Works - Snapshots

Recommendation 19

SPINACH, City of Adelaide website for young people - Commonwealth

The winner of the 2001 National Awards for Local Government - Youth Services Category, SPINACH, is believed to be the first stand-alone youth website produced by any local government authority in Australia. The site has proved to be an exciting and successful way to provide information to young people on facilities, services, activities and programmes in the city and to involve young people in council activities.

Young people are involved in developing and promoting the SPINACH website to ensure it remains dynamic and interesting. Special features have been incorporated to ensure the site is relevant to the young, among them a web cam that allows the young people to view the conditions of the City Skate Park and a virtual gallery where people can display their artwork, poems and stories. New features are constantly being developed and added.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 19.

Careering Ahead, Building a Future - Commonwealth

Michelle is 22 and has completed a number of TAFE courses and done some part-time work: "I've made a few bad decisions about my career and thought it was time to get some help. I really want to find out what my strengths are and what sort of career I should pursue. Career Counselling is helping me find out about myself - which occupations suit my interests, personality and skills."

An unemployed brickie was very angry that he had worked for a number of years in a job that he didn't like but had to earn a living. What he wanted to do was to become a doctor. Through
the programme it was found that he was well suited to helping people, The Career Counsellor suggested the Cert IV in Health (Nursing) at the local TAFE. Fourteen months later he was working in a local nursing home. He had successfully completed the course and gained a job that he was loving: "I got heaps out of my time with the Career Counsellor - opened my mind to the boundaries I had placed in my own mindset - i.e. job opportunities, resume set up. Really important to have this sort of thing - it motivates people and makes getting employment seem more obtainable and within reach. That the odds are not insurmountable"

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 19.
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 19

Queensland

School-Community Conferencing

The Community Accountability Conferencing process is now known as School Community Conferencing (CSC) and is a process for bringing together people in a school community who have been affected by an incident. Conferencing usually involves the student responsible for the incident, the victim, supporters of the student and the victim and other people affected by the incident. This process allows all parties in a situation where there has been a breach of acceptable behaviour to come together and to discuss the impact that such behaviour has on all concerned and jointly to determine a course of action.

More than 100 state schools have participated in first a trial and then a pilot of conferencing since 1995. A range of school community members subsequently trained as conference coordinators.

Target group: Indigenous youth at risk

Coverage: State wide with localised activities.

Timeframe: Ongoing 2001/2002

Responsible Agency: Education Queensland

Contact: Contact local school or District Office for further details

Website: www.education.qld.gov.au

Local School-Community Initiatives

A number of Cape York and Torres Strait Communities have incorporated Elders Justice Groups into school behaviour management processes. Issues regarding attendance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students at remote community schools continue to be addressed. For example, the clan group affiliation model of classroom arrangement has continued at Aurukun. Other local school-community initiatives have also been developed including transition programs, ‘Adopt-an-Elder’ programs, and outstations.

Target group: Indigenous students, particularly those at risk.

Coverage: State wide with localised school-community activities, particularly on Cape and Gulf communities and Torres Strait Island communities.

Timeframe: Ongoing 2001/2002

Responsible agency: Education Queensland

Contact: Contact local school or District Office for further details

Website: www.education.qld.gov.au

HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis C and Sexual Health Website for Young People
As well as providing information to "at risk" young people, the site includes a simulated sexual health check which seeks to improve access to sexual health services for all young people particularly those at risk of HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis C & sexual health infections.

Target group: Young people 12-17 years.
Coverage: Queensland
Timeframe: 2002 onwards
Responsible agency: Queensland Health
Contact: Principal Program Advisor
   Sexual Health
   Communicable Diseases Unit
   Queensland Health
   Ph (07) 3234 0904
Website: www.istaysafe.com

Young Parents Support Program
(also address rec 20)

The Young Parents Support Program seeks to improve the health and well being of young pregnant women, young parents and their children by increasing their access to health and other services through employing youth workers in non-government organisations.

Target Group: Young pregnant women and young parents
Coverage: Gold Coast, Logan-Beaudesert, Sunshine Coast and Cairns
Timeframe: Ongoing to 2003
Responsible Agency: Queensland Health
Contact: Community Services Manager, Southern Zone
   Statewide and non-Government Health Unit
   Queensland Health
   Ph (07) 3234 1898
Website: www.health.qld.gov.au

Innovative Health Services for Homeless Young People and Health Services for Disadvantaged Young People
(also addresses rec 20)

These Commonwealth and State funded programs deliver outreach and bridging clinical services, innovative health promotion and harm minimization programs through eight community based agencies for young people aged 12-25 years that are homeless or at risk of homelessness. These programs provide a youth friendly contact and referral point for disenfranchised young people.

Target group: Young people aged 12-25 years that are homeless or at risk of homelessness
Coverage: Mt Isa, Woolloongabba, Fortitude Valley, Cairns, Toowoomba, Brisbane, Logan/Woodridge and the Gold Coast
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible agency: Queensland Health
Contact: Community Services Manager, Southern Zone
Statewide and non-Government Health Unit
Queensland Health
Ph (07) 3234 1898

**Rumble in the Jungle**
(Also address rec 18 and 20)

The 100% IN CONTROL Rumble in the Jungle is a sport and adventure-based program that looks at crime prevention and alcohol, tobacco and other drug issues for at risk young people. It consists of team-based physical and mental challenges developed around an adventure activity course. Young people are involved in the planning, decision-making and implementation of the event.

This is not a one-off event. During the lead up to main activities, team members participate in team building activities, training events, alcohol, tobacco and other drug education sessions and activities that facilitate the development of trust and team building. Participants follow an extensive team building and self esteem process which includes being introduced to staff of various youth services in their local areas.

Rumble in the Jungle planning and implementation often occurs through the development of local organising committees or other partnership groups.

**Target Group:** At risk young people 12-17 years of age

**Coverage:** State wide

**Timeframe:** Ongoing

**Responsible Agency:** Queensland Health

Contact: Senior Project Officer
Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Services
Ph (07) 3234 0344

Website: [www.100incontrol.com](http://www.100incontrol.com)  

**The Community Renewal Program - Partnership in Prevention Project**

Issues relating to the inclusion of youth in the process of regenerating disadvantaged communities and assisting local youth to develop their lives in positive and constructive ways are key priorities for this program. Most initiatives represent a new approach to meet the needs of the communities and therefore function as pilots to test innovative solutions to social policy issues.

The dominant theme of the youth projects funded by the Community Renewal Program is building self-esteem and creating pathways with other residents and agencies in the local community. The Partnership in Prevention Project provides drug and alcohol education programs. targets

**Target group:** Young people and their families with a focus on early intervention and prevention.

**Coverage:** Three Brisbane High Schools

**Timeframe:** Two years

**Responsible agency:** Department of Housing

Contact: Senior Project Officer
Dept of Families
Community Renewal
6 Ewing Rd, Woodridge Q 4114
Ph: (07) 3225 2545
Ph: (07) 3380 6225
The Community Renewal Program - Fostering Self-Esteem Project
(also addresses rec 18)

This project provides educational activities for young people during the school holiday period. Activities aim to break down barriers between youth and police, raise awareness of drug and alcohol abuse, introduce youth to crime prevention education, encourage participation in sporting recreational activities to relieve boredom and self-worthlessness and enhance the multi-agency approach to addressing issues in Manoora.

Target group: Young people in the Manoora community

Coverage: Manoora

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Housing

Contact: Senior Project Officer  Queensland Police Service
Community Renewal  Far Northern Police Region
Ph: (07) 3225 2545  PO Box 7419, Cairns Q 4870
Ph: (07) 4040 4926

Website: www.housing.qld.gov.au
Ph: (07) 4040 4926

The Community Renewal Program - West Cairns Youth Development Project

This project funds a Youth Development Worker to bring together young people (aged 10-18), their families and broader community to create opportunities for the development of youth leadership.

Target group: Young people aged 10 – 18 years old

Coverage: Manoora, Queensland

Timeframe: 2002

Responsible agency: Department of Housing

Contact: Senior Project Officer Dept of Families  Queensland Police Service
Community Renewal  Far Northern Police Region
36 Shield Street Cairns  PO Box 7419, Cairns Q 4870
Ph: (07) 3225 2545  Ph: (07) 4052 9504

Website: www.housing.qld.gov.au
Ph: (07) 4040 4926

Youth at Risk Outreach Services

Youth at Risk Outreach Services (YAROS) aim to divert young people from risk taking behaviour including sex exchange and prevent their entry to the formal sex industry.

YAROS provide a range of services including outreach, support and practical assistance, health information, needle exchanges, skills development, peer support, information and referral and counselling.

Most of the YAROS are located within large, multi-functional youth services, so that clients have access to a range of supports.

Target group: Young people involved in sex exchange and/or at risk of entering the formal sex industry.

Coverage: Brisbane, Logan, Sunshine Coast, Gold Coast, Mt Isa and Cairns.

Timeframe: Commenced in 1993 and currently funded on a triennial basis until 2004
Youth Crime Prevention Services
(also addresses recs 17 and 18)

Funding is provided to community organisations to contribute to the reduction in youth crime through the provision of programs that address the factors that contribute to youth offending or re-offending. Young people have the opportunity to achieve their maximum potential and participate in family and community life, through the delivery of programs and services that address the underlying causes of offending.

Target group: Young people aged 10-17 years at risk of offending or re-offending

Coverage: 25 services in areas of high youth crime across the State

Timeframe: Commenced in 1992 and is ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Families

Contact: Director
Service Development Branch, Youth Justice
Ph: (07) 3224 7852

Website: www.families.qld.gov.au

'Which Way You Mob' Project
(also addresses rec 18)

The Aboriginal Coordinating Council (ACC) based in Cairns is funded to coordinate prevention and intervention services for Indigenous young people at risk in Far North Queensland remote communities. The project provides assistance to communities to plan and implement activities that strengthen the ties between young people, their families and their communities.

A number of funding rounds have been conducted to support developmental activities in communities (Youth Activity Grants). Funding processes have been timed to coincide with school holidays, which traditionally have been peak periods for offending or substance abuse. A broad range of sports, social, recreational and arts/cultural activities have been funded. Approximately one third of the funds have been allocated to arts and cultural activities.

In addition, project staff based within the ACC have assisted communities establish Youth Councils, undertake youth action planning processes, and develop planned responses to community crises such as suicide and petrol sniffing.

Target group: Youth at risk of suicide, self-harm and offending within the target communities. However, strategies may involve a range of stakeholders including families, service providers, young people, community councillors and the broader community.

Coverage: Thirteen of the fourteen Queensland Deed of Grant in Trust (DOGIT) communities are resourced by this project. Other remote communities in the Northern Peninsula receive support through regional initiatives undertaken by the project.

Timeframe: 1999/2002
Queensland Government Youth Suicide Prevention Strategy
(also addresses recs 18 and 20)

The aim of the QGYSPS is "to prevent self-harming behaviour, particularly youth suicide, and to reduce the impact of youth suicide on families and communities through coordinated and integrated life affirming strategies which enhance the quality of life for young people, their families and their communities".

The cornerstone of the QGYSPS is the establishment of local community networks to strengthen the capacity of families and communities to take ownership of suicide prevention and respond to the needs of young people at the local level. The QGYSPS identified a range of strategies for communities to consider across the spectrum of prevention, early intervention, treatment, and postvention.

Target group: Young people aged 15-24 years of age

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: The Queensland Government Youth Suicide Prevention Strategy is a whole of Government initiative that is chaired by the Department of Premier and Cabinet and involves the Department of Employment and Training, Queensland Health, Education Queensland, Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Policy and the Department of Families.

Contact: Director
Office of Youth Affairs
(07) 3224 2807

Website: www.youth.qld.gov.au

Local Justice Initiatives Program

This program aims to reduce the over-representation of Indigenous peoples within the criminal justice system. With the funding provided, communities often form a community justice group that develops local responses to the justice priorities within their communities. A number of justice groups work proactively with the young people of the community, in particular by diverting them from the criminal justice system. Organisations funded under this program form part of a community-based, holistic approach to service delivery within their communities.

Target group: Indigenous peoples with or at risk of coming into contact with the criminal justice system.

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Annual funding with some groups participating for the past five years

Responsible agency: Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Policy

Contact: Manager
Law and Justice Policy Branch
(07) 3404 3534

Website: www.indigenous.qld.gov.au
Community Employment Assistance Program
(also addresses rec 20)

Community organisations are funded to provide intensive employment and training assistance including post placement support/mentoring. Grants totalling $19 million were approved for 352 projects throughout Queensland for organisations to assist 15,507 long-term unemployed people gain better skills and more job opportunities with 5,826 gaining jobs. 40% of those assisted were youth and 37% who gained employment were youth.

Target group: Long-term unemployed and those at risk of being long term unemployed.

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: The program is funded over six financial years to 30 June 2004.

Responsible agency: Department of Employment and Training

Contact: Manager Community Employment Programs
Ph: (07) 3225 2113

Website: www.employment.qld.gov.au

Get Set for Work
(also addresses rec 20, 21 and 22)

Intensive training and employment assistance and wage subsidy for project participants who gain employment.

Target group: Unemployed early school leavers aged 15-24 years in communities of high youth unemployment.

Coverage: 35 projects worth $2.94 million have been approver assisting 952 participants. 89 youths have already gained employment. Activity is limited to 15 areas across the State identified as experiencing high levels of youth unemployment.

Timeframe: The program is funded from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002

Responsible agency: Department of Employment and Training

Contact: Manager Community Employment Programs
Ph: (07) 3225 2113

Website: www.employment.qld.gov.au

Yindingi Gibar (young messengers) Indigenous Youth Leadership Conference 2001

The 5 day conference, held at the Bunya Mountains (a traditional gathering place) provided an opportunity for young Indigenous people to share their success stories, challenges and experiences. It promoted and provided young people with skills development workshops and strategies for dealing with community issues.

Target group: Indigenous young people aged between 15 and 35 years

Coverage: state

Time frame: 2001

Responsible agency: Hosted by the Office of Youth Affairs, Department of Employment and Training and sponsored by Arts Queensland and the Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services.

Contact: Director
The Youth Alcohol and Drug Action Group

The Queensland Drug Coordinating Committee oversees the implementation of Beyond A Quick Fix, The Queensland Drug Strategic Framework.

A Special Purpose Working Group named Youth Alcohol and Drug Action has been established with representation from the Department of Employment and Training, the Department of Families, Queensland Health, Queensland Police Service, the Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Policy, Education Queensland, Arts Queensland and other community / government representation as needed. This working group considers and makes recommendations in response to youth drug and alcohol issues identified through both government and community consultation strategies.

Target group: Young people aged 12-25 years

Coverage: State

Timeframe: The Youth Alcohol and Drug Action group was established in November 2000 and is ongoing

Responsible agency: Office of Youth Affairs, Department of Employment and Training

Contact: Director
Office of Youth Affairs
Ph: (07) 3224 2807

Website: http://www.youth.qld.gov.au/

Peer Support System
(also addresses recs 18 and 20)

The program is for Indigenous prisoners who require personal support to cope with issues relating to incarceration. The program is offered at Townsville Correctional Centre and Lotus Glen Correctional Centre in Mareeba. The department also provides opportunities for peer support to non-Indigenous prisoners, particularly young offenders, who may be at risk within all correctional centres.

Target group: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander offenders including youth

Coverage: Statewide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Corrective Services

Contact: Adviser Workplace Practices
Ph: (07) 3405 6292

Website: www.dcs.qld.gov.au

The Elder Visits Program
(also addresses 18 and 20)

The Elder Visits Program sees Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders visit offenders in correctional centres. They regularly meet young offenders for non-structured meetings sharing news about their families and providing updates on community events, aiding their cultural awareness and personal development. In the case of the youth detention centre they provide assistance where applicable in the
transition from youth to adult facilities.

Target group: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander offenders including youth

Coverage: Elder groups are located in Brisbane, Cairns, Townsville, Rockhampton and Cherbourg

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Corrective Services

Contact: Adviser Workplace Practices
        Ph: (07) 3405 6292

Website: www.dcs.qld.gov.au

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Literacy Program
(also addresses 18 and 20)

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander prisoners participate in literacy assessment and training in all correctional centres. During 2001, 321 Indigenous prisoners participated in literacy education programs state wide. This number represents an Indigenous participation rate of 24%.

Target group: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander offenders including youth

Coverage: Townsville

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Corrective Services

Contact: Adviser Workplace Practices
        Ph: (07) 3405 6292

Website: www.dcs.qld.gov.au
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 19

**Victoria**

**Managed Individual Pathways**

Youth provided with individual pathways plans related to their education and job aspirations and follow up interventions for those considered at risk after they leave their provider institution. Schools required to establish links with the Local Learning and Employment Network and other outside providers.

- **Target group:** Young people 15 - 19 years (mainly year 10 - 12 students)
- **Coverage:** State wide in government schools, TAFE and ACE sectors
- **Timeframe:** 2001-2003
- **Responsible Agency:** Department of Education and Training
- **Website:** [www.det.vic.gov.au](http://www.det.vic.gov.au)

**Local Learning and Employment Networks**

Recommendation 19 meshes very closely with the purposes for which LLENs were established. The future co-operative model developed for local communities working with government will include the Commonwealth Enterprise and Career Education Foundation (ECEF)

- **Target group:** Young people 15 to 19 years
- **Coverage:** Metropolitan, rural and regional communities across Victoria
- **Timeframe:** 2001-04
- **Responsible Agency:** Department of Education and Training
- **Website:** [www.det.vic.gov.au](http://www.det.vic.gov.au)

**Pilot Bail Support Services Program**

This program aims to enhance the likelihood of a defendant being granted bail and successfully completing the bail period by providing appropriate accommodation, supervision and access to treatment programs as required.

- **Target group:** Young people aged 17-30 years seeking bail on criminal charges where there is a high likelihood of being remanded in custody
- **Coverage:** South Eastern metropolitan Melbourne
- **Timeframe:** A one-year pilot from July 2001 to June 2002
- **Responsible Agency:** Office of the Correctional Services Commissioner, Department of Justice
- **Website:** [www.dhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au)
**Bridging the Gap**

This initiative aims to assist exiting prisoners by providing transitional support for high risk and high needs younger prisoners with significant substance abuse issues.

Target group: Young people aged 17-30 years exiting prison with identified reintegration needs.

Coverage: Metropolitan Melbourne.

Timeframe: This two year pilot program commenced in April 2001

Responsible Agency: Office of the Correctional Services Commissioner, Department of Justice


**Enhancing Specialist Behaviour Services - Adolescent Initiative**

This initiative aims to develop a comprehensive service model of prevention and treatment for adolescents with a disability who have been identified as 'at risk' of displaying offending behaviour or have established patterns of offending behaviour.

Target group: Adolescents with a disability who are at risk of displaying offending behaviours or have established patterns of offending behaviour Coverage: All nine Disability Services Regional Offices around Victoria have received funds to implement and pilot a range of models

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible Agency: Department of Human Services, Disability Services Division

**Youth Services Program**

This program aims to improve the well-being and social health status of young people through the provision of integrated, co-ordinated and relevant local prevention and early intervention services.

Target group: Young people aged 10-25 years with a focus on 12-18 years of age, who display one or more risk factors

Coverage: State wide


Responsible Agency: Community agencies and local government authorities throughout Victoria

Website: [www.dhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au)
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 19

Northern Territory

NT Police Juvenile Pre-Court Diversion Scheme - Community Youth Development Units (CYDU)

The NT Police Juvenile Diversion Units are presently facilitating the development of CYDUs throughout Territory remote communities. These units will develop specific plans for youth at risk in these communities and further provide opportunities for all youth in the community. CYDUs are already operating in Tennant Creek and Wadeye. The CYDUs apply a holistic approach to the needs of juveniles. This includes consideration of education, health, welfare, sport, recreation, training and employment needs. A priority of the units will be to develop plans that will give a very high priority to education needs in consultation with the local education institution.

Target group: Juveniles and youth
Coverage: Remote communities
Timeframe:
Responsible agency: Northern Territory Police
Website: www.nt.gov.au/pfes/

Youth policy officer positions

Contribute to the development, review and evaluation of policies, strategies, and programs relating to young people

Target group: 12 - 25 years
Coverage: Territory wide
Timeframe: Recurrent
Responsible agency: Department of Health and Community Services
Website: www.nt.gov.au/health/

Resourcing Adolescents for Tomorrow

Implementation of RAFT program [Resourcing Adolescents for Tomorrow] which provides accommodation and support services and independent living skills. It is being delivered in conjunction with a non-government organisation [Anglicare].

Target group: Young people with high support needs who are in care and will move on to independent living
Coverage: Territory wide
Timeframe: Recurrent
Establishment of Office of Children and Families, to provide a whole of government policy approach to enhance children and family wellbeing, and to ensure line agencies provide services consistent with that approach.

Target group: Children and families

Coverage: Territory Wide

Timeframe:

Partnerships

1. Local Education Advisory Boards (LEABS)

LEABs will be established in communities to support the full engagement of Indigenous people in improving educational outcomes of Indigenous students in the Northern Territory. Four pilot communities will be selected in 2002. The aim of the pilots will be to establish educational advisory boards with appropriate community leadership. The pilots could be established in community schools or cluster schools within linguistically and culturally affiliated regions. LEAB's, with departmental support, will develop community education plans to aid in the implementation of the Department of Employment, Education and Training Indigenous Education 5-Year Strategic Plan, NIELNS and IESIP Agreements.

2. Self Managed Schools

Provision to be made for community control over education decision-making processes, while establishing clear benchmarks for expected improvements.

It is envisioned that the Local Education Advisory Board will be the management group for a self managed school.

This initiative seeks to achieve:

- Local responsibility for the maintenance and development of community well being and human resources
- Community capacity to embrace educational and social change
- Efficient and effective consultation and reporting processes
- Flexible and creative community direction to the school principal for delivery and resourcing of school programs.

3. Ongoing partnership development

Partnerships will foster collaboration from all stakeholders in achieving common goals in education. They will seek to improve Indigenous student outcomes through:

- Engagement and involvement of key local leaders in the development and maintenance of the partnerships
- Building relationships and linkages between relevant stakeholders, activities and programs at the local and regional level.
- Collaborative utilisation of human, material and financial resources.
- Encouragement and support of improved communication through networking
between key stakeholders at the community and regional level
- Harnessing expertise, building knowledge, and encouraging and assisting relevant data gathering and research
- Activities such as collaborative planning and development, consultation, two way communication and the gathering of information integral to the successful implementation of the local and regional plans.
- Sharing information and ideas (networking) between organisations and communities across the NT
- Organisational and community based workshops and services aimed at supporting the development and implementation of the strategic plans
- Contact with Commonwealth and Territory officers to foster shared knowledge of government processes and identify and create linkages with broad organisational and community processes.

Target group: Whole Community

Coverage: Territory Wide

Timeframe: 2002 - 2004

Responsible agency: Department Employment, Education and Training.

Website: [www.education.nt.gov.au](http://www.education.nt.gov.au)
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 19

South Australia

Young People, Crime Prevention and the Arts Initiative

Arts SA in partnership with the Office of Crime Prevention (Justice Portfolio) is developing a joint initiative targeting young people "at risk", using arts activity (eg drama, contemporary music, or visual art) as the medium. The objective is to offer high quality opportunities for young people to explore and express their creativity and their aspirations, provide pathways to employment and other community support systems, and to demonstrate to young people that their contributions are valued and respected. To be jointly funded initially by Arts SA and the Office of Crime Prevention.

Target group: 10-18 years
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: In operation by June 2002
Responsible agency: Arts SA and the Office of Crime Prevention
Websites: www.arts.sa.gov.au
www.justice.sa.gov.au

Aboriginal Youth Accommodation Options Working Group (Bail Options)

Accommodation option for Aboriginal youth aged 10-18 years both on and off bail.

Target group: Aboriginal youth aged 10-18 years
Coverage: Metro and Port Augusta
Timeframe: 12 Month Pilot
Responsible agency: Department of Human Services - Aboriginal Services Division with FAYS
Website: www.dhs.sa.gov.au

Family and Community Development Program

Grants provision targeting young people who are marginalised and vulnerable as result of life circumstances, unemployment, homelessness, offending, drug and alcohol abuse and violent behaviour. The major objective for the Family and Community Development Services funding is to enable families to provide a caring environment for their children which protects them from neglect, harm, abuse and exploitation, and ensures they are not disadvantaged and allows them to reach their full potential.

Target group: At risk young people
Coverage: State wide
**Independent Living Support Teams**

Assist young people on care orders to achieve successful independent living.

- **Target group:** 15-18
- **Coverage:** Metropolitan
- **Timeframe:** Ongoing

**Carclew Youth Arts Centre**

Carclew aims to develop and provide programs of excellence in all art forms for children and young people to the age of 26 years, including disconnected young people. Carclew delivers arts workshops, activities, training, volunteering, skill development, networking and performance opportunities for all young people.

- **Target group:** Under 26
- **Coverage:** State wide
- **Timeframe:** Ongoing

**Online Forum** (part of Integrated Youth Strategy)

To increase the effectiveness of Youth Advisory Committees by enabling committees and individual members to develop and maintain strong linkages with each other across the state.

- **Target group:** 12 to 25 years
- **Coverage:** State wide
- **Timeframe:** 4 year program

**Youth Network Grant Scheme** (part of Integrated Youth Strategy)

Funding has been made available to establish or strengthen Youth Networks across South Australia to progress locally based youth empowerment initiatives.

- **Target group:** 12 to 25 years
- **Coverage:** State wide
- **Timeframe:** 4 year program
Youth Employment Program (part of Integrated Youth Strategy)

Supports young people who are experiencing barriers to successful participation in the labour market.

The program has two components:

- The funding of locally driven initiatives that seek to enhance young peoples' chances of success in the labour market
- The development of a 3 year Youth Employment Strategy

Target group: Young people experiencing a high level of unemployment

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: 4 year program commencing July 2001

Youth Advisory Committee Grant Scheme (part of Integrated Youth Strategy)

Local councils are eligible to apply for funding to establish or strengthen Youth Advisory Committees. Youth Advisory Committees are linked to Local Councils and provide youth advice on a range of issues and empower young people because the young people themselves are responsible for their operation.

Target group: 12 to 25 years

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: 4 year program

South Australian Youth Advisory Forum "SAYit" (part of Integrated Youth Strategy)

Brings together young people, members of Youth Plus - Ministerial Youth Advisory Committee, Youth Advisory Committee members and local government employees who work with young people across SA to discuss ideas that relate to young people and Youth Advisory Committees.

Target group: 12 to 25 years

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: 4 year program

Partnership and Outreach Education Models (POEMs)
Regional networks will ensure broad cross sectoral partnerships involving the education, community and business sectors are instrumental in building education and training pathways for young people unable to participate in mainstream education.

POEMS will be developed where:

- Education and training services are delivered in settings where young people gather and are comfortable
- Local partnerships involving youth and community agencies, schools, training providers and local employers are essential
- Education and training approaches are developed and delivered in consultation with young people
- Foundation and employability skills are a primary focus

Young people at risk or disconnected have:

- opportunities to develop their understanding of work culture.
- Vocation experiences in supportive and well supervised work settings
- Opportunities to participate in SWL, obtain employability competence in IT use.

Target group: Young people who are disconnected from mainstream education and training

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: 2002-2003

Responsible agency: Department of Education, Training and Employment - Enterprise and Voc. Ed

Website: [www.dete.sa.gov.au](http://www.dete.sa.gov.au)

**Transition Support Networks**

Regional networks will, through Transition Support Networks develop approaches to career and transition support which will provide assistance to young people and their families. It will be driven by local partnerships and will allow regional networks to respond collaboratively to the needs of young people and the local community.

The project aims to support transition support networks to:

- Set their own locally relevant objectives within the agreed Career and Transition Management Framework
- Design their own advisory and planning structures and local action structures
- Pool local, state and CW bodies to support local initiatives
- Support 13-19 year olds, especially young people who are disconnected from schools or are at risk of leaving school early, by strengthening their abilities to make successful transitions to post school options.

Target group: 13 -19 year olds, especially those who are at risk or disconnected

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: 2002-2003

Responsible agency: Department of Education, Training and Employment - Enterprise and Voc. Ed

Website: [www.dete.sa.gov.au](http://www.dete.sa.gov.au)

**Ministerial Advisory Committee on Victims of Crime**

The Committee comprises representatives from Govt agencies covering education,
human services, Aboriginal affairs and justice. It also has a representative from the Victim Support Service and the Law Society.

In 2001/02 priorities include:

- access to criminal injuries compensation to be extended to youth without the consent of actual offender
- improve services to victims from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, victims with a mental impairment and child victims.
- consider how victims, particularly children, can be more involved/empowered in the criminal justice system

Target group:
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: The Committee reports to the Attorney-General

Youth initiatives

- Youth section of OCBA's Website
- 'Before you Splash your Cash' brochure

OCBA does not have any specific initiatives to address these recommendations however there are a range of packages which can be incorporated in bigger strategies. Eg, OCBA maintains a range of financial, renting and purchasing advice specifically aimed at younger people who are trying to make their respective ways in late teens or early adulthood.

OCBA is also a regular contributor to school curriculum work on consumer-related issues by providing materials and presentations. OCBA can provide supporting information to teachers who want to equip students with basic personal survival and life skills in the areas mentioned above as well as provide presentations to groups of students and has regularly done so in the school environment.

Target group: Any age
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Office of Consumer and Business Affairs (OCBA) - AGD

Website: www.justice.sa.gov.au
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 19

New South Wales

Schools as Community Centres

The Schools as Community Centres (SaCC) program aims to:

- influence the planning and integration of service delivery to better meet the needs of families with children from birth to eight years with a focus on the years prior to school
- support families with children from birth to eight years with a view to ensuring that children have a healthy and positive start to school, and
- strengthen communities through interagency collaboration and community participation in decision-making processes which relate to the provision of services.

Target group: SaCC targets disadvantaged communities with young children and families, and families with children 0-8 years with a priority on children 0-5 years.

Coverage: Specific localities (currently Curran, Coonamble, Redfern, Chertsey, Kelso, Kempsey, Glebe, Marrickville West, Rosemeadow, Anna Bay, Cessnock, Windale, Bonnyrigg, Cabramatta, Canley Vale and Fairfield Public Schools). Further expansion in Central Coast, Hunter and South West Sydney regions is expected in 2002. Additional centres may be funded as Families First planning is achieved across NSW.

Timeframe: Ongoing.

Responsible Agency: The NSW Department of Education and Training is the lead agency with responsibility for co-ordinating the implementation of the project across NSW. The program is managed in close collaboration with the NSW Department of Community Services, NSW Health and NSW Department of Housing.

Website: www.det.nsw.gov.au
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 19

Tasmania

Youth Arc

An initiative of The Hobart City Council with a focus of young people in crisis and assisting them to access other services. Youth Arc offers a range of activities and services and have formed working partnerships with a range of government agencies.

Coverage: Southern Tasmania

Timeframe: Current

Responsible Agency: Hobart City Council

Website: www.hobartcity.com.au

Reconnect

The program is based on the Reconnect programs for the 12-18 years and offers a service of family mediation to ease friction between children and their families.

Coverage: Southern Tasmania

Timeframe: Current

Responsible Agency: Hobart City Council, Colony 47

Website: www.hobartcity.com.au
www.colony47.com.au
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 19

**Western Australia**

**Students at Educational Risk (SAER) Strategy, Making the Difference**

Strategy requires schools to co-ordinate and integrate an interagency approach to meeting the individual needs of students at risk of alienation.

**Target group:** K - Y 12 and re-entry students

**Coverage:** State wide

**Timeframe:** Ongoing

**Responsible Agency:** Department of Education

**School Leaver Program**

The School Leaver Program aims to identify and assist school leavers who are unable to secure employment, education and/or training placements once they have left school.

**Target group:** School students in years 10, 11 and 12

**Coverage:** State wide

**Timeframe:** Ongoing

**Responsible agency:** Department of Training, Education Department

**Website:** [www.eddept.wa.edu.au](http://www.eddept.wa.edu.au)

**Safety Net Making it Happen**

Safety Net is an early intervention strategy targeting students who display early signs of at risk behaviour (ie truancy or other behaviour resulting in suspension).

**Target group:** Youth at risk

**Coverage:** State wide

**Timeframe:** 2002

**Responsible agency:** Department of Training, Education Department

**Website:** [www.training.wa.gov.au](http://www.training.wa.gov.au)

**Joblinks**

The Joblink program is a community-based employment service, which provides a range of activities to assist local job seekers into employment or training.

**Joblink services and activities include:**

- employment counselling;
- advice and assistance with job search techniques; and
- support for school leavers to access employment.

Target group: Local communities and youth specific

Coverage: Metropolitan and regional localities

Timeframe: 2002

Responsible agency: Department of Training

Website: [www.training.wa.gov.au](http://www.training.wa.gov.au)

**Aboriginal School-Based Traineeship Program**

This program provides an integrated approach towards the education and vocational training of young Aboriginal students in order to increase school retention rates and reduce unemployment.

Target group: Students are drawn principally from post-compulsory school years. The minimum age for a traineeship is 15 years.

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Training, Community Development Employment Projects, Education Department

Website: [www.training.wa.gov.au](http://www.training.wa.gov.au)

**Competitively Allocated Training (CAT)**

Through its youth at risk stream, the program provides support for vocational education and training (VET) providers to implement upper secondary education and VET programs.

Target group: Youth at risk

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Training

Website: [www.training.wa.gov.au](http://www.training.wa.gov.au)

**Jobworks**

Jobworks aims to provide employment through enterprise-tailored training for young people who experience difficulty in accessing mainstream employment and training services.

Target group: Youth at risk

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: 2002

Responsible agency: Department of Training

Website: [www.training.wa.gov.au](http://www.training.wa.gov.au)
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 19

Australian Capital Territory

'Schools as Communities' project

This project focuses on families and children who are disadvantaged. The project aims to improve social and educational outcomes for children and young people by creating stronger relationships between the school, families and communities. The project links families with health, community and education services. It includes specific initiatives to address the needs and improve the educational outcomes of these children and young people.

'Schools as Communities' is focussed in particular areas. It commenced at the beginning of 2001 in eight schools chosen using a number of data sets from the Australian Bureau of Statistics and Family Services. Eight staff have been employed to implement the project. The annual budget is $700 000. In the medium to long-term the project will involve local schools becoming a hub for community activities in a broader capacity. The Secondary Principals' Council has indicated that high schools participating in the program have already observed positive impacts from the additional support.

Target Group: ACT school students and their families

Coverage: Territory wide

Timeframe: Ongoing as funding allows

Responsible Agency: Family Services within the ACT Department of Education and Community Services

Contact Information: Family Services, (02) 6207 1089,

Website: http://www.decs.act.gov.au/services/FamServSACProgram.htm
**Initiatives targeting Recommendation 19**

## Commonwealth

### Australians Working Together - Indigenous Education and Training

Under Australians Working Together, DEST will consult with ECEF regarding the development of projects to encourage increased vocational learning opportunities for Indigenous secondary school students.

- **Target Group:** Indigenous Young People
- **Coverage:** National
- **Timeframe:**
- **Contact:** Branch Manager
  Indigenous Policy Development and Co-ordination Branch
  Ph: (02) 6240 7720

**Responsible Agency:** Department of Education, Science and Training

[Website: www.dest.gov.au](http://www.dest.gov.au)

### Indigenous Ambassadors Programme

Under the National Indigenous English Literacy and Numeracy Strategy, the Indigenous Ambassadors Programme promotes the importance of education, literacy and numeracy to Indigenous students, their parents and teachers. Ambassadors are involved in a range of targeted activities, across all sectors of education and community groups, to impart knowledge and understanding of the issues facing Indigenous students and the barriers to their education.

- **Target Group:** Indigenous Young People
- **Coverage:** National
- **Timeframe:** Ongoing
- **Contact:** Branch Manager
  Indigenous Programme Delivery Branch
  Ph: (02) 6240 5055


**Responsible Agency:** Department of Education, Science and Training

### Career and Transition (CATS) Pilots

During the 2002 school year, twenty three Career and Transition Pilot (CATS) projects across Australia are exploring methodologies for and testing ways to enhance career and transition support to young people aged 13-19 years. The pilot projects will offer improved career and transition information, support, guidance and advice and will include the development of individual learning pathways plans focusing on young peoples transitions through school and from school to further
education, training and work, prepared with the support of dedicated Transition Advisors. Local partnerships between schools, the community, government and industry as well as links with families are an integral part of these projects.

The CAT projects have been developed as part of the Government's response to the Youth Pathways Action Plan Taskforce's Report Footprints to the Future, in particular to recommendations 4, 5 and 6.

The Career and Transition (CAT) Pilots contain four major components:

- Community Partnership Committees;
- dedicated Career and Transition Advisers;
- Learning Pathways Plans for young people aged 13 - 19; and
- testing ways of tracking the transitions of young people for 18 months post school

Target Group: Young people aged 13-19

Geographical Coverage: 23 projects will operate across a variety if setting in metropolitan, regional and remote areas of Australia.

Timeframe: 12 months from April 2002

Contact details:
Director
Transition Partnerships Section
Enterprise and Career Education Branch
Department of Education, Science and Training

Responsible Agency: Department of Education, Science and Training

Website: www.dest.gov.au

**Career Counselling Programme**

The purpose of the Career Counselling Programme is to help people establish or redefine their employment, education and training goals and develop career management, research and decision making skills, against a background of self knowledge and a realistic understanding of the world of work.

Job seekers who are having trouble deciding what they want in a career and needing direction—whether it is deciding on a course of study, upgrading their existing skills or just finding the right job—can receive assistance through Career Counselling.

Career counselling involves attending a group counselling session and/or an individual counselling session with professional counsellors, informed about labour market opportunities, taking a pro-active approach in assisting unemployed people through a range of activities which can include:

- exercises that identify and match their goals, interests and abilities;
- exploring the range of jobs available within their various areas of interest and possibly their physical locations;
- directing the people to information on educational requirements and if necessary educational preparation programmes;
- developing career research and decision making skills;
- assisting individuals develop strategies towards employment in their chosen careers;
- developing a realistic understanding of the world of work; and
- assisting participants to develop or revise an action plan.

Target Group:

- any job seeker on benefit,
- young people aged 15-20 years old, who are not eligible for income support
but who are registered with Centrelink as a job seeker, and
- Return to Work programme participants

Geographical Coverage: National
Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
Director
Career Services Section
Department of Education, Science and Training
Ph: (02) 6240 5227

Initiative Website address:

Responsible agency: Department of Education, Science and Training

**Language, Literacy and Numeracy Programme (LLNP)**

The objective of the Language, Literacy and Numeracy Programme is to improve job seekers' English language, literacy and numeracy skills to assist them in securing sustainable employment or to participate in further education and training. Gains in language, literacy and numeracy skills also improve the quality of participants' daily lives.

The LLNP provides basic English language, literacy and numeracy training and advanced English language training. Face to face training is available from over 330 locations around Australia. For those job seekers with carer responsibilities or who are unable to access a face to face provider, training can be undertaken anywhere in Australia by distance education.

For job seekers subject to Mutual Obligation arrangements, participation in the LLNP satisfies Mutual Obligation requirements.

Training can be undertaken on a part-time or full-time basis, between 6 and 20 hours a week. Job seekers are allocated up to 400 hours of training, some of which can be undertaken on a one-to-one basis or in groups of two or three people.

Target Group: Job seekers aged 15 to 64 years who are in one of the eligible categories below and whose language, literacy and numeracy skills are below the level considered necessary to gain a job.

Job seekers aged 15 to 20 can access this assistance if they are registered with Centrelink as looking for work - there is no need to be in receipt of a payment from Centrelink.

Job seekers over 21 need to be in receipt of Youth Allowance, Newstart Allowance, Disability Support Pension or Parenting Payment or participating in a Community Development Employment Project to access the assistance.

Migrants who are subject to the two year waiting period or holders of one of the temporary or provisional visa subclasses: 309, 310, 445, 450, 820, 826, 850, 437, 781, 783 and 784 can access basic English language training.

In addition, job seekers whose first language is not English and who are citizens or permanent residents or holders of any of the above visa subclasses can access advanced English language training, irrespective of whether they are on income support.

Coverage: National
Timeframe: Ongoing
Stronger Families and Communities Strategy

The Stronger Families and Communities Strategy is a program intended to strengthen local communities and families through a range of linked initiatives. Youth are targeted under the Strategy, particularly through the following measures:

- the Potential Leaders in Local Communities initiative aims to develop skills, opportunities and support for potential community leaders, including helping young people to become leaders amongst their peers and future community leaders;
- the Local Solutions to Local Problems initiative helps communities to develop their own responses to local issues and in the process increase their capacity to deal with similar or other issues in the future. This could include engaging young people in the community by providing access to facilities or resources, helping young people to access support and information or helping young people in educational environments;
- young mothers can also benefit from the Stronger Families Fund which encourages coordination and integration of local services to help communities to find new ways to strengthen families, focusing on early childhood development and effective parenting; and
- the Early Intervention Parenting and Family Relationship Support initiative can also benefit young parents through parenting skills education and playgroups, as well as help young people experiencing family conflict through family counselling.

53 local projects directly benefit young people. These projects have been funded under the Potential Leaders initiative (19 projects), the Local Solutions initiative (16 projects) and Early Intervention Parenting and Family Relationship Support (11 projects). The 53 projects also include 6 projects of national significance.

Target Group: Families and communities generally; youth are targeted as described above.

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Community Branch, FaCS
Phone: 02 6212 9159

Website: www.facs.gov.au/sfcs/index.htm

Responsible Agency: Family and Community Services

Reconnect' (formerly Youth Homelessness Early Intervention Program)

Reconnect provides early intervention support to young people aged 12 to 18 who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and their families. The objectives of Reconnect is to improve the level of engagement of homeless young people, or those at risk of homelessness, with family, work, education, training and the community. As at March 2002, 93 Reconnect services are operating nationally and a further 7 are being established through community development processes. This will bring the total number of Reconnect services to 100.
Six Reconnect services specifically focus on Indigenous young people, their families and communities. The Department is working with an additional seven Indigenous communities in remote, rural and metropolitan areas to establish specific services to address the needs of local young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their families.

Target Group: Young people aged 12 to 18 who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and their families

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Youth Bureau, Programs Branch, FaCS
Ph: 02 62129437
facs.internet@facs.gov.au

Website: www.facs.gov.au

Responsible Agency: Family and Community Services

**Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP)**

SAAP is a joint Commonwealth and State/Territory program. 477 of its 1,238 services across Australia are tailored to supporting young people who are homeless or at risk of being homeless, providing transitional accommodation and/or related support services, aiming to achieve the maximum possible degree of self-reliance and independence. In 2000-01, approximately 37% of SAAP clients were aged 25 years and under. The most common reason given by young people (under 25) for seeking assistance was relationship/family breakdown. Children also enter SAAP services accompanying an adult.

Target Group: People who are homeless or at risk of being homeless

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Housing Support Branch, FaCS
Phone: 02 62129490
facs.internet@facs.gov.au


Responsible Agency: Family and Community Services

**SAAP services targeted for young people**

SAAP services targeted at young people are predominantly crisis accommodation services which are able to make support and referrals across a range of needs, including counselling, advocacy, financial and employment and health and medical services. In 2000-01 for both young women and young men the most common reason for seeking assistance from SAAP was relationship or family breakdown (16.9% for men under 25 and 20.5% for women under 25).

Target Group: Young people

Coverage: National
Redevelopment of the Youth Protocol

The Protocol for the Case Management of Unsupported Young People (the Youth Protocol) has been in place since 1994. Since its inception, the Youth Protocol has helped to clarify the responsibilities of Commonwealth and State/Welfare agencies in relation to homeless young people. FaCS initiated the Youth Protocol re-examination process following agreement about the need to review the Youth Protocol at a meeting between Commonwealth and State/Territory Welfare departments on adolescents in state care, held in May 2000.

- Findings from the re-examination point to a need for action on:
  - updating and renegotiating the content of the Youth Protocol to reflect changes at the State/Territory and Commonwealth level and improving its effectiveness;
  - reinvigorating and strengthening the structures and processes to support effective operation of the Youth Protocol; and
  - improving the capacity and responsiveness of the service delivery system, with more attention to collaborative approaches and flexible support options.
- The CSMAC Youth Working Group (YWG), comprising of nominated State and Territory and Commonwealth officials, will guide the redevelopment of the Protocol as outlined in the Terms of Reference for the YWG.
- The focus of the redevelopment is to address many of the issues identified through consultation as barriers for the effective operation of the Youth Protocol.
- Redevelopment will include work at both the bi- and multilateral level. In addition to this, a consultant will be appointed to pursue bilateral issues, including identification of existing pilots to inform good practice in the implementation of the Protocol.

Target Group: Unsupported young people under the age of 18 who are:

- under the statutory minimum school leaving age; or
- subject to Care and Protection Orders; or
- above statutory minimum school leaving age, and are considered to be at risk of, or have been subjected to, abuse or violence

Coverage: 1363 protocol referrals were made during the period of January 2000 to December 2000.

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Youth Bureau, Programs Branch, FaCS
Ph: 02 62129437
facs.internet@facs.gov.au

Website: www.facs.gov.au
Responsible Agency: Family and Community Services

**Collaborative Youth Services Trials**

The Collaborative Youth Services Trials focus on service delivery to disconnected young people or those at risk of becoming disconnected. The purpose is to test the processes by which local needs are identified and collaborative approaches to the provision of existing, or new, services can be developed to meet those needs effectively.

**Target Group:**

The target group is generally 12-25 years who are disconnected young people or those at risk of becoming disconnected. Individuals supported through these trials will be drawn from the following groups:

- Those with poor literacy/numeracy skills, learning difficulties or who have left school early;
- Indigenous Australians who are disconnected from education, training and employment opportunities;
- Those who are homeless;
- Those who are at-risk of becoming homeless;
- Those in contact with the juvenile justice system;
- Ex-offenders/those leaving detention;
- Refugees/recent migrants;
- Those in care (wards of the state/ex-wards/in foster care); and
- Those in rural/remote areas and who have limited education, training and employment opportunities.

**Coverage:** The localities involved are:

- Cape York (Queensland);
- Wide Bay/Burnett (Queensland);
- Cootamundra/Young (New South Wales);
- Playford (South Australia); and
- Footscray (Victoria).


Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Youth Bureau, Programs Branch, FaCS
Ph: 02 62129437
facs.internet@facs.gov.au

Website: [www.facs.gov.au](http://www.facs.gov.au)

Responsible Agency: Family and Community Services

**Innovative and Collaborative Youth Servicing Pilots (ICYS)**

The ICYS Pilot Projects will promote more effective collaboration among service providers at the local community level and encourage greater ownership and accountability by communities for initiatives designed to assist young people. Projects will be required to test avenues of cooperation between and across Commonwealth/State/local government policies and programmes and community initiatives in order to deliver more effective services and improved outcomes for young people.

**Target Group:** Young people aged 12-25 are the target group for the pilots, although variation to the age range will be considered in response to local conditions.

**Coverage:** Around 25 pilots in a variety of urban, rural and remote locations across
Australia.

Timeframe: Pilots are planned to commence in May/June 2002

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Youth Bureau, Programs Branch, FaCS
Ph: 02 62129437
facs.internet@facs.gov.au

Website: www.facs.gov.au

Responsible Agency: Family and Community Services

Job Placement, Employment and Training Programme (JPET)

JPET provides a holistic approach to assisting young people overcome problems preventing them from maintaining stable accommodation and entering into full-time education, training or employment.

JPET offers ongoing support and referral services to young people to help them overcome a range of problems, including housing, substance abuse, family difficulties, sexual or other abuse, lack of self esteem, income support, and other barriers to employment, education or training.

The most common strategies implemented across all target groups were personal support, job search assistance and training assistance. Income advocacy and financial assistance were also common strategies. 136 agencies are contracted to deliver services throughout Australia

Target Group: JPET assists students and unemployed young people between 15-21 years who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless (with priority to be given to those aged 15-19 and to homeless young people). Assistance is also provided to young people who are/or have been wards of the State, are refugees or have been in the juvenile justice system.

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Youth Bureau, Programs Branch, FaCS
Ph: 02 62129437

Website: http://jpet.facs.gov.au/

Responsible Agency: Family and Community Services

Australian's Working Together - Personal Support Programme

The Personal Support Programme will provide funding to assist people who have multiple barriers to employment. The new programme will replace and expand the Community Support Programme (CSP) that is administered through the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations.

The Personal Support Programme will provide assistance to the most vulnerable job seekers, including people with barriers such as homelessness, drug and alcohol problems, psychological disorders and domestic violence problems.

Centrelink will refer people with significant non vocational employment barriers to service providers funded under the programme. Service providers will provide them with assistance or link them to other government or community organisations that provide the sorts of help they need. By 2004-2005 the new programme will be
assisting 45,000 people.

The new programme will help people to stabilise their circumstances and enable them to achieve outcomes that match their abilities and capacity. These will include social as well as economic outcomes. Participants will have up to two years of support and assistance in the Personal Support Programme.

For many participants, an appropriate outcome will be to transfer to Intensive Assistance to get help to find work. Others will undertake study or training or volunteer activities. For others with more severe barriers, the Personal Support Programme will help them to address their personal barriers (e.g., find stable accommodation, attend drug or alcohol or other counselling services) and increase their involvement in the community.

Target Group: People with non-vocational barriers to employment such as homelessness, drug and alcohol problems, psychological disorders and domestic violence problems.

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Participation Support Branch, FaCS
Ph: (02) 62448563


Responsible Agency: Family and Community Services, Centrelink

**Australians Working Together**

*Australians Working Together - Helping people to move forward* is a major package of initiatives offering significant support and services to help people to help themselves. Young job seekers will benefit from many *Australians Working Together* (*AWT*) initiatives announced in the 2001-02 Budget. Young people will also benefit from the improvements to employment services under *AWT*.

*AWT* builds on the Government's employment assistance and mutual obligation policies that have attracted widespread support amongst participants and the broader community.

The new system is providing improved personalised assessment and service, more opportunities for training and work experience, better incentives, and reasonable requirements for people to find work, increase their earnings or contribute to their communities. Centrelink will be the gateway to the new system.

Centrelink Personal Advisers will provide a high level of service to people needing additional help to overcome personal or other barriers.

Under *AWT* young people will have access to more places in Literacy and Numeracy Training, Job Search Training, and Work for the Dole and can earn Training Credits by participating in Work for the Dole and Community Work. Vulnerable and at risk young people will benefit from the better assessment processes in Intensive Assistance and the linkages between Intensive Assistance and other programmes. Young people will also benefit from other initiatives such as the Working Credit (which encourages people on income support to take up full-time, substantial part-time or casual work) and the new Personal Support Programme (designed to help people with problems such as homelessness, and drug and alcohol addiction) that replaces the Community Support Programme. Coverage: National

Timeframe: July 2001 - June 2005
Contact details: together@dewrsb.gov.au

Initiative Website address: http://www.together.gov.au/

Responsible Agency: Shared policy responsibility between Family and Community Services, Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, and Department of Education, Science and Training

**National Awards for Local Government - Youth Services Category**

The National Awards for Innovation in Local Government foster and acknowledge innovation and leading practice in local government. The awards identify and reward local government bodies, associations and other collaborating organisations who are developing and implementing innovative, resourceful practices that improve local government outcomes and help build sustainable Australian communities.

The Youth Services Category Award acknowledges innovation and excellence in the provision of youth services and amenities with an emphasis on the degree to which young people are actively engaged in their communities and encouraged to participate in policy decision-making that affects them.

The Award showcases innovations and excellence that benefit young Australians where they live, study, work and play. It also highlights projects that help young people participate actively in their communities and in the democratic institutions that service those communities as respected young citizens.

Target Group: Local government organisations.

Coverage: National


Responsible Agencies: Department of Family and Community Services and Department of Transport and Regional Services

**Centrelink Community Officers and the Homebound Program**

Centrelink has 33 Community Officers (CCO) who ensure that homeless and marginalised customers have equitable access to and maintenance of income support and services provided by Centrelink.

The role of the Centrelink Community Officer (CCO) is to provide alternative services to homeless people who may not be able to access the mainstream services provided by Centrelink. This service is provided out of office in locations that are more convenient or where customers feel more comfortable.

CCO's provide out servicing to customers in locations such as detoxification and rehabilitation centres, refuges, hostels for the homeless, psychiatric hospitals and drop in centres. Out servicing by CCO's provides community agencies with a reliable and effective means of ensuring that customers have access to appropriate income support.

Under the National Homelessness Strategy, Centrelink is hosting "Homebound" - a two and a half day placement in Centrelink offices for homelessness service providers to improve the co-operative working relationship between those services and their local Customer Service Centre.

Target Group: Homeless people

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
Centrelink Personal Advisers

Under *Australians Working Together* a range of initiatives will be available to those young jobseekers that are indigenous or have special needs. *AWT* draws on Centrelink's capability to provide a range of assessment tools and its brokering role to assist individuals to improve their economic and social participation in the community. It is recognised that a vast majority of programs are delivered by non-government organisations. A major change with the implementation of *AWT* is the introduction of 850 new Centrelink Personal Advisers, in order to ensure people's needs are assessed better, so that they get the right assistance. Centrelink Personal Advisers will provide extra help to assist some young people with special needs to get a job or participate as possible in their community. This will involve the formation of partnerships with non-government groups, outside experts and its customers to provide the right help.

Target Group: Various

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
National Manager
Youth and Student Community Segment
Centrelink
Ph: 02 6244 6269

Website: [www.centrelink.gov.au](http://www.centrelink.gov.au/)

Responsible Agency: Department of Family and Community Services and Centrelink

Centrelink/South Australia - Youth Connect

In South Australia, Centrelink is working directly with the State welfare department, Family and Youth Services (FAYS), to provide a "joined up" State and Commonwealth service response to young people exiting secure accommodation by collocating Centrelink services in the FAYS office. This service is aimed at developing appropriate activity agreements with young people who are marginalized to minimise their disengagement with services and education, training and employment. This program is regarded as a trial for evaluation for possible implementation in other States to target assistance at our mutual customers.

Target Group: Youth

Coverage: Local, Adelaide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
National Manager
Youth and Student Community Segment
Centrelink
Ph: 02 6244 6269

Website: [www.centrelink.gov.au](http://www.centrelink.gov.au/)

Responsible Agency: Family and Community Services and Centrelink
Innovative Health Services for Homeless Youth (IHSY) Program

To provide innovative health services to homeless and otherwise at risk young people to enable this group to maintain their health while homeless or at risk of homelessness. These young people tend not to utilise mainstream health services effectively and therefore continue to be at significant health risk. Funding is provided to States and Territories on a matched dollar:dollar basis for a range of service based activities including advocacy and counselling, referral to other health services, health prevention and promotion and mobile outreach services. This program complements the Reconnect (Early Intervention into Youth Homelessness project) administered by the Department of Family and Community Services.

Target Group: Young people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Four years to 2002-2003.

Contact Details:
Director
Co-ordination & Management Unit
Mental Health and Special Programs Branch
Department of Health and Ageing
Ph: (02) 6289 1555

Website: www.mentalhealth.gov.au

Responsible Agency: Department of Health and Ageing

National Crime Prevention Program

The National Crime Prevention Program’s objectives are to identify and promote innovative ways of reducing and preventing crime and the fear of crime. The program includes both research and practical initiatives including national pilot projects, local prevention activities and communication and training initiatives. Priority issues include property crime; domestic and family violence and violence in Indigenous communities. A significant proportion of National Crime Prevention Program (NCP) funding is for early intervention initiatives with young people and their families under the Youth Crime and Families Strategy.

National projects focusing on young people include those addressing public space, public events, domestic violence, truancy, bullying, early intervention and homeless youth. Research reports are already available on the domestic violence, early intervention, homelessness and use of public space.

To date key youth related initiatives under the programme include:

- Research Reports
    The report highlights the importance of targeting multiple risk and protective factors at critical transition points in a young person’s developmental life cycle.
  - "Living Rough - Preventing Crime and Victimisation Among Homeless Young People" (Jaffe R, Szirrom T, 1998)
    This project classifies examples of current service delivery to homeless and disadvantaged young people, identifies and develops measures for evaluating the successful practices and strategies which address both
the victimisation and the offending rates of young homeless people, and depicts the outcomes resulting from these strategies

- "Hanging Out - Negotiating Young People's Use of Public Space" (White R, University of Melbourne, 1998)
  This report is based on research completed by Associate Professor Rob White of the University of Melbourne. The research involved a mapping of existing initiatives and approaches, and the identification of key themes and good practice.

- The Western Australian Aboriginal Child Health Survey
  The NCP has committed funding to this joint project with other Commonwealth departments and State agencies in Western Australia. It will be undertaken by the TVW Telethon Institute for Child Health Research.
  The Survey is designed to provide the State and Commonwealth governments, the ATSIC Regional Councils and Aboriginal Controlled Health Organisations with planning data similar in quality and relevance to the information that is currently available in relation to non-Indigenous children.

- Early Intervention - Youth Crime and Families Strategy
  Building on the Pathways research, the Government committed funding to the Youth Crime and Families Strategy for work on early intervention and the prevention of youth crime. Early intervention is a priority for the NCP. Accordingly, the Program undertakes work aimed at early intervention in a number of areas related to young people who are at risk of becoming involved in crime or anti-social behaviour, and their families.

- Two early intervention demonstration projects have been funded, one in South Australia and one in the Redfern Waterloo area of Sydney, NSW.

- Investing in our Youth - Bunbury, WA
  The NCP has committed funding to the Bunbury Investing in our Youth project - an early intervention initiative aimed at ensuring the resources of the community are used strategically and effectively in creating an environment that supports the healthy development of children and young people.

- Bullying
  Bullying impacts on students' physical and psychological health, educational attainment and social development. Bullying behaviour can also indicate subsequent anti-social and criminal behaviour. The NCP is funding research and development into the most effective ways to prevent and stop bullying in pre-school and in the early primary years. This is a unique approach in focusing on these pre school and early primary school students. Once the most effective anti-bullying strategies are identified, the project will develop information resources to help teachers, parents and carers prevent and address bullying in schools.

- 'Croc' Festivals
  The Commonwealth is committed to working with grass roots Indigenous organisations to achieve innovative solutions to problems experienced by, and promote effective communication among, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. The Croc Eisteddfod Festivals have been developed in concert with the Rock Eisteddfod challenge since 1998. Both events focus on having fun in a drug and alcohol free environment. However, the Croc Festivals place greater emphasis on community partnerships.

- National Review of Juvenile Diversion
  Through the NCP, the Commonwealth Government has commissioned a national profile of diversion programs.

- Mentoring
  The NCP is commissioning a national profile and a literature review on mentoring programs for young offenders. The profiling will include an analysis of the factors that contribute to the successful operation of mentoring programs and it is expected that the literature review will detail evaluations of established programs both nationally and internationally.

- Prisoners and their Families
  Children of prisoners are at risk of disadvantage and the NCP has a special interest in trying to ensure that they are not disadvantaged and are given every opportunity for healthy growth.
Children of prisoners across Australia now have the opportunity to develop a more meaningful relationship with their imprisoned parent as a result of a national pilot program under the NCP. The national program, managed by Good Beginnings Australia Ltd, assists children and families of prisoners by, for instance, conducting early childhood development training programs for parents in prison and providing transport for children who want to visit their parents in prison.

- **Truancy and Juvenile Crime**
  There is an established relationship between juvenile crime and non-attendance at school. The Commonwealth and Tasmanian Governments have joined forces to address school truancy and its links to juvenile offending and victimisation. Each has provided funding towards an important initiative in Tasmania, which will tackle the issue of anti-social behaviour and juvenile crime by focusing on school attendance. The project uses a multi-faceted approach involving community, parents, schools and service providers.

- **Indigenous Youth Mentoring Scheme**
  The NCP and the South Australian Government have made a joint commitment to an Indigenous Youth Mentoring Scheme. This scheme is designed to divert at-risk youths away from criminal behaviour by providing intensive mentoring schemes to Indigenous young people who are at early stages of their involvement in the criminal justice system. The Indigenous Youth Mentoring Scheme is part of the Commonwealth Government’s commitment to capacity building in South Australia through the NCP.

- **Young People and Burglary Prevention**
  In March 2001 the ACT Government received NCP funding for three projects aimed at reducing the incidence and severity of residential burglary. Along with the Adult Offender project and the Victim Response project, the Juvenile Offender project will implement a mentoring program to reduce recidivism with forty young male offenders assessed as high-risk burglary offenders.

- **A trial of two brief interventions for cannabis problems among young offenders in NSW**
  Based on Australian and overseas research results, the project will develop and trial two brief innovative psychological interventions for adolescent cannabis users. This will increase the range of criminal justice options for a large section of the juvenile offender population, one that fills a serious gap in existing services.

- **Young People and Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction**
  In September 2001, the Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator the Hon Chris Ellison, approved funding for this project. It will be undertaken in conjunction with the National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council (NMVTRC) and state government and local industry bodies to combat motor vehicle theft by developing a good practice model to reduce motor vehicle theft that could be implemented and tested nationally. Initiatives will be funded in Tasmania, Queensland and Western Australia.

**Target Groups:** Groups vary from project to project.

**Coverage:** National

**Timeframe:** 2000 - 2003

**Responsible Agency:** Attorney-General's Department

**Website:** [www.ags.gov.au](http://www.ags.gov.au)

**Commonwealth Community Legal Services Programme (CCLSP)**

CCLSP purchases general and specialised legal services on behalf of the most needy members of the Australian community who are unable to afford a private lawyer. These services are purchased from community legal services located across Australia.

While each community legal service assists young people who require legal services,
While each community legal service assists young people who require legal services, the CCLSP recognises the importance of providing services that specialise in both assisting with and educating youth about their legal rights and responsibilities.

The CCLSP funds five Youth Legal Services as follows:

- (VIC) North Melbourne Community Legal Service;
- (QLD) Logan Youth Legal Service;
- (QLD) Youth Advocacy Centre;
- (SA) Adelaide Inner Northern Community Legal Service; and
- (WA) Youth Legal Service.

Youth legal services provide assistance in a range of important areas, including but not limited to: school suspensions/expulsions, school bullying, disability discrimination in schools, victims compensation applications, family law, consumer rights, sexual harassment, social security problems, youth casual employment practices and mandatory sentencing. The range of service types delivered includes legal advice and casework, information, education and law reform.

In addition, the CCLSP funds the National Children's Youth Law Centre (NCYLC) to provide legal services. This innovative and successful service has a national focus and targets metropolitan and rural youth via the Internet, [http://www.lawstuff.org.au/](http://www.lawstuff.org.au/).

**Target Group:** Young people under 18.

**Coverage:** Individual Youth Legal Services providing coverage in Victoria, Western Australia, South Australia and Queensland with the NCYLC providing national internet based coverage.

**Timeframe:** Ongoing

**Responsible Agency:** Attorney-General's Department

**Website:** [www.ags.gov.au](http://www.ags.gov.au)

### Northern Territory Diversionary Scheme

- **Northern Territory Agreement**

  The Commonwealth's ongoing commitment to working with the States and Territories to prevent juveniles from entering the criminal justice system is demonstrated by an agreement signed by the Commonwealth and the Northern Territory Government on 27 July 2000. The agreement is designed to divert juveniles from the criminal justice system.

  Under the Agreement the Commonwealth is providing funding over four years for a juvenile pre-court diversion scheme and to jointly fund an Aboriginal interpreter service. This enables funding for:

  - a range of new community-based diversionary programs in urban, rural and remote communities;
  - community based drug and substance abuse diversionary programs
  - a Juvenile Diversion Unit in the Northern Territory Police Force which administers the diversion process and which conducts family conferencing and other programs
  - a jointly funded Aboriginal Interpreter Service, including recurrent funding for training of interpreters, and
  - funding in the first year for training of interpreters (in addition to the recurrent funding for training). The Commonwealth and the Northern Territory are working closely together to facilitate the coordination of this initiative.

**Target Group:** Young people in contact with the juvenile justice system

**Coverage:** Northern Territory
Timeframe: 2000-04
Responsible Agency: Attorney-General's Department
Website: www.ags.gov.au
Recommendation 20

The taskforce recommends that:

- Commonwealth, State, Territory and local governments work together with community agencies to ensure governments, education and training providers and community agencies collaborate in developing practical local packages of support for young people with high support needs that include:
  - the development of local service networks involving any individuals or agencies identified by young people as being significant personal supports;
  - fostering and resourcing connections with local recreational, cultural, sporting, religious and social groups to encourage the participation of these young people;
  - the opportunity for disconnected young people to work with youth support staff in developing mutually agreed personal support plans;
  - the provision of accessible personal and programme resources to achieve the objectives of personal support plans; and
  - the availability of appropriate training and support for staff working in these programmes.
- the Commonwealth extend the coverage of the JPET programme and incorporate the approaches outlined above in its work in local communities.

Initiatives addressing Recommendation 20

Below is a compilation of initiatives, listed by State/Territory and Commonwealth, that contribute to building the foundations of support needed to promote the wellbeing, participation and identification of young people in vulnerable circumstances. In addition, you are encouraged to look at the current selection of Snapshots gathered for the State/Territory and Commonwealth initiatives targeting Recommendation 20.

Queensland

Education Queensland

- Queensland the Smart State – Education and Training Reforms for the Future
- Croc Eisteddfod Festival
- Support for at Risk Students
- Partners for Success Strategy
School-based Indigenous Workers
Education Programs in Youth Detention Centres

TAFE Qld – Department of Employment and Training
- Transition Officers
- Glendyne Farm and Youth Training Centre
- Flexible Delivery for at Risk School Students
- Student Support Services
- Youth at Risk Program

Queensland Health
- Cultural Awareness Training for Staff
- Reconciliation Learning Circle Program
- Health promoting Schools Program
- Queensland Indigenous Sexual Assault Health Strategy
- Young Parents Support Program
- Innovative Health Services for Homeless Young People and Health Services for Disadvantaged Young People
- Rumble in the Jungle
- 100% IN CONTROL

Department of Housing
- Community Renewal Program – Logan Area
- Community Renewal Program – Partnership in Prevention Project

Department of Emergency Services
- State Emergency Services Cadet Scheme

Department of Main Roads
- The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education to Employment Scheme

Queensland Transport
- School Transport Committee of Review
- Learner Licensing Project

Queensland Government
- Queensland Government Youth Suicide Prevention Strategy

Department of Corrective Services
- Peer Support System
- The Elder Visits Program
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Literacy Program

Department of Employment and Training
- Community Employment Assistance Program
- Youth Re-connected
- Review of Pathways Articulation

Department of Innovation and Information Economy - Sport and Recreation
- Local Government Development Program
- Indigenous Community Development Program
- Locker Rooms
- Teacher/Coach Accreditation Program
- Community Skills Development Program in ICT

Rock Eisteddfod Challenge Pty Ltd
- Rock Eisteddfod Challenge Sponsorship

Indigenous Festivals of Australia Ltd
- Croc Festival Sponsorship

**Victoria**

Department of Education and Training
- Local Learning and Employment Networks
- Managed Individual Pathways Initiative
- Regional Youth Committees
- Youth Pathway Program

Department of Justice
- Koori Youth Group
- Bridging the Gap

**Northern Territory**

Department of Employment, Education and Training
- Irrkerlantyere Learning Centre

Northern Territory Police
- NT Police Juvenile Pre-Court Diversion Scheme – development of Community Youth Development Units (CYDU)
- NT Police Juvenile Pre-Court Diversion Scheme – case management and mentoring services

Department of Employment, Education and Training
- Partnership (proposed)

**South Australia**

Department of Human Services
- Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP)
- Ceduna Bush Breakaway Project
- Community Residential Care
- Home Detention
- Reunification
- Youth at Risk

Carclew Youth Arts Centre
Carclew Youth Arts Centre
Young People, Crime Prevention and the Arts Initiative

South Australian Youth Arts Board

Department of Education, Training and Employment

- active 8 Premier’s Youth Challenge
- Partnership Outreach Education Models
- Transition Support Networks
- Tutorial Centres

Office of Consumer and Business Affairs

- Youth initiatives

Courts Administration Authority

- Youth Court - Family Conferencing Team

New South Wales

Department of Education and Training

- Helping Young People at Risk Program
- Learning Works
- Aboriginal Careers Aspirations Program

Tasmania

Police Tasmania

- The Mobile Activity Centre

Department of Youth Affairs

- National Youth Week
- Youth Services Funding to Small Local Council
- Community-based Youth Advisory Services

Western Australia

Department of Education

- Students At Educational Risk Strategy
- Vet In Schools
- Regional Access
- Joblinks
- Competitively Allocated Training (CAT)
- Aboriginal School-Based Traineeship Program
- Career Plus Caravan
- Access All Areas
- GetAccess

Australian Capital Territory

ACT Department of Education and Community Services
Commonwealth

Department of Education, Science and Training

- Jobs Pathway Programme
- Partnership Outreach Education Model (POEM) Pilots
- Career and Transition (CATS) Pilots
- National Indigenous English Literacy and Numeracy Strategy (NIELNS)
- ECEF - WADU Indigenous Youth Partnerships Initiatives
- Australians Working Together - Indigenous Education and Training

Department of Family and Community Services

- Reconnect
- Youth Activities Services Program
- Collaborative Youth Services Trials
- Innovative and Collaborative Youth Servicing (ICYS) Pilots
- Jobs Placement Employment and Training (JPET)
- Personal Support Programme
- Supported Accommodation Assistance Programme (SAAP)
- SAAP – Case Management

Department of Family and Community Services, Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, and Department of Education, Science and Training

- Australians Working Together

Department of Family and Community Services, and Centrelink

- Centrelink Community Officers and Centrelink Homebound programme

Department of Employment and Workplace Relations

- Job Network – Intensive Assistance
- Indigenous Employment

Centrelink

- Centrelink National Partnership Group for Young Job Seekers and At Risk Young People
- Centrelink/South Australia – Youth Connect

Department of Health and Ageing

- National Illicit Drugs Strategy

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Sharing What Works - Snapshots

Recommendation 20

**Two way mentoring - Toowoomba Youth Re-connected - Qld**

This program brings together young people who have had an incomplete or negative experiences of learning and mature aged volunteers who are positive learning role models.

During the first six weeks the young people complete computing competencies and on successful completion, receive a certificate - an early acknowledgement of achievement and success. The young people then assist the older people to learn computer skills as they work together to produce a biography or history. In addition, through integrated projects the young people have the opportunity to develop literacy and numeracy skills and to complete competencies in the Certificate of Adult General Education.

This two way program helps young people to develop a commitment to learning, confidence and a willingness to interact more with the community.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to [Initiatives targeting Recommendation 20](#).

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**Gold Coast Youth Commitment - Qld**

On the Gold Coast a network of State and non-Government high schools, community organisations, Government agencies, TAFE institutes, training providers, employers and youth services is being established. It aims to help Gold Coast young people to complete Year 12 at school or at another recognised provider, obtain Year 12 or equivalent education or training qualifications such as a TAFE certificate, or obtain a full-time job that is linked to education or training. The strategies involve personal action plans for all secondary students, skilled transition brokers to case manage all
students leaving school before the end of Year 12 and to create job opportunities. The network links to a Youth Program at the Gold Coast Institute of TAFE where staff work closely with young people who are disenchanted with the school system. It assists them go back to school or into apprenticeships, traineeships, further education or work. The inspiration behind the Gold Coast's Youth Commitment is the Dusseldorp Skills Forum, a NSW based independent, non-profit association with a charter to stimulate innovative educational developments for young people.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 20.

Partnerships for promoting completion rates in Goondiwindi - Qld

Goondiwindi State High School, in a rural community about 375 kilometres southwest of Brisbane, increased its Year 12 completion rate from 54 per cent in 1999 to 89 per cent in 2000.

This remarkable result was achieved through a partnership between the Department of Employment and Training, the school, local rural industry and the wider community. Ninety-six employers provided training opportunities to Year 11 students and school-based traineeships were offered in 17 industry areas. Participating students were required to complete only four school subjects, as well as the requirements of their training plan.

In order to build upon this achievement, a partnership between the Department of Employment and Training, Education Queensland, local rural industry and the community has occurred to establish a Goondiwindi Rural Technology Skills Centre. It is anticipated that this facility, which will be constructed adjacent to the Goondiwindi State High School will be completed in 2002.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 20.

Managed Individual Pathways - Vic

McGuire College - Vic

McGuire College is a co-educational secondary school of around 640 students located in the south of Shepparton in Victoria's north-east. At the end of the 2001 school year, 46% of Year 10-12 McGuire College students had individual
pathway plans. The Managed Individual Pathways (MIPs) initiative facilitates the college goal of improving and enhancing student awareness of their options for further education, training and careers. To this end, the following initiatives have been implemented as part of the college’s overall MIPs strategy:

- The compulsory Industry and Enterprise Unit in Year 10 includes the use of Guest Speakers, Workplace Visits and Videos, University Information Sessions, Careers Expos, and Career Recruitment Providers. Year 11 and 12 students are also exposed systematically to follow-up programs in these areas.
- Individual course counselling provided by trained staff for selected Year 10 and 11 students, using student academic performance and career pre-requisites as a basis for discussion.
- Transition programs for students moving from Year 10 to 11, and Year 11 to 12.
- A web page for the College website is currently under construction to enable all students and their parents to access the latest information on matters relating to career-planning and future options. This initiative will supplement the activities undertaken in Home Groups and the information distributed via newsletters. It will also reinforce the college's efforts to provide a framework that empowers students to engage in their own research and take ownership of their own futures.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 20.

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Special Programs for Koori Pupils - Vic

Under the guidance of the Koori Community Worker, various special programs and activities have been instituted with a view to improving the retention and successful outcome rates of Koori students. These include:

- A volunteer-supported 'homework program' for 1-2 hours after school on Wednesdays.
- A special after-school Art Program.
- A TAFE Pathways Program for Years 9 and 10 students.
- Tertiary/living away from home orientation visits to Melbourne for Years 11 and 12 students.
- Mentor training under the BRIDGES Program to assist Years 10-12 students to become mentors for Years 7 and 8 pupils.
- Incentive Programs for students who attain personal goals.
- Regular home contact by the Koori Educator.

A measure of the success of this program is the fact that the largest number of Koori students in the College's history have attempted and completed Year 12, with seven of the eight students who commenced the year, completing it. In addition, three students from Years 9-12 received Alfred Felton bequest scholarships for their academic achievement. This scholarship is available to Koori students enrolled in state secondary colleges.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 20.
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 20

Queensland

Queensland the Smart State - Education and Training Reforms for the Future

This reform outlines the Queensland Government’s commitment to the education and training needs of all young people, especially the needs of 15–17 year olds who are not engaged in school, training or employment. It covers three key areas: getting ready for school, information and communication technologies for school and work and getting ready for work or further study. Consultation, until mid 2002, will address the following issues:

- changing the school leaving age from 15 to 16 or 17
- reorganising the senior years of schooling into a cluster of years 10,11, and 12
- reviewing the senior certificate to reflect broader types of all learning
- making school the local coordinator for learning and youth support.

These reforms and initiatives will give young people a greater choice in deciding what is best for them in terms of education and skill development and how best they are engaged in preparation for life after school.

Target group: All young people

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Education Queensland and Department of Employment and Training

Website: http://www.thepremier.qld.gov.au/smartstate/education_training/

Croc Eisteddfod Festival
(also addresses rec 18)

Education Queensland in conjunction with State and Commonwealth Health Departments continues to support the annual Croc Eisteddfod Festival. This event was initiated in 1998. The Croc Eisteddfod Festival targets students on remote Cape and Gulf communities as part of the National Drug Offensive. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students participate in presentations with a theme aimed at drug and alcohol awareness and prevention. In 2001, the event was held on Thursday Island.

Target group: Indigenous Youth at Risk

Coverage: State wide with localised activities.

Timeframe: Ongoing 2001/2002

Responsible agency: Indigenous Festival Australia in conjunction with other agencies including Education Queensland, Queensland Health.
Support for Students at Risk

Education Queensland employs a range of personnel in schools and other facilities to offer support for students at risk.

Personnel include:

- guidance officers who identify, support and (where appropriate) refer students with many forms of educational, behavioural, and social/emotional risk
- community education counsellors who provide a support service to indigenous students and communities
- school transition officers who assist students with disabilities in transition from school to post school options.

Other personnel working in schools and funded by other government departments include: school health nurses, police officers, and youth support coordinators.

Target group: Students at risk

Coverage: Queensland

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Education Queensland

Contact: Manager
Inclusive Learning Unit
Ph: (07) 3237 0793 (07) 3235 4213

Website: [www.education.gov.au](http://www.education.gov.au)

Partners for Success Strategy

Processes associated with school-community partnerships have seen the development and implementation of localised strategies to address localised challenges. Some of these initiatives include:

- interagency activity that has generated community forums and the establishment of localised agreements in areas such as health and justice
- community-based VET programs to meet the post-compulsory schooling needs of young people, particularly in Cape and Gulf communities
- New Basics curriculum initiatives that contextualise learning experiences to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander contexts
- ‘Reach In – Reach Out’ project that looks at innovative approaches to information technologies in schooling
- Reading Recovery texts development to enhance the level of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives in reading texts
- elders in schools initiatives that incorporate the critical role that elders and other respected community members can play in schooling
- ESL-based pedagogies that acknowledge the home and community languages of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities – this is supported by appropriate professional development to provide teaching personnel with the skills to support Indigenous
learners
- literacy profiling/tracking activities to monitor the English literacy development of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander learners
- a range of literacy development and support programs, including Talking Books, Books in Home and the ESL Bandscales.

This represents a small sample of localised innovative approaches currently being undertaken in Indigenous school communities that exert a positive influence on indigenous youth at risk.

Target group: Indigenous youth at risk

Coverage: State wide with localised activities in trial sites

Timeframe: Ongoing 2001/2002

Responsible agency: Education Queensland

Contact: Indigenous Education Program
(07) 3237 0808


**School-based Indigenous Education Workers**

Education Queensland schools have used their Indigenous Education Strategic Initiatives Projects (IESIP) funding to establish school-community based support officers, for example home-school liaison officers and community education counsellors to provide direct support to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth. Additional localised strategies have developed from school-community partnerships in addressing issues pertaining to youth at risk.

Target group: Indigenous youth, including those at risk.

Coverage: State wide, particularly in schools with significant number of Indigenous student enrolments

Timeframe: Ongoing 2001/2002

Responsible agency: Education Queensland

Contact: Contact local school or District Office for details

Website: [www.education.gov.au](http://www.education.gov.au)

**Education Programs in Youth Detention Centres**

This initiative provides for a vocational education and training program in youth detention centres for 50 weeks per year as committed through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Departments of Families, Education Queensland and Employment and Training. The MOU outlines each agency’s responsibility for the provision of education and vocational education and training to young people accommodated in youth detention centres. This is consistent with Education Queensland’s commitment to providing five hours per day education and vocational training, commensurate with the general school population, for a 40-week school year.

The detainees at youth detention centres are in custodial care for more than 40 weeks per year, thereby being without an educational program for up to 12 weeks. A 50 week school year will enable purposeful use of educational opportunities and Youth Education and Training Centre (YE&TC) resources for detainees and maintain a continuity in individual education programs.

The expansion to a 50 week school year will enable the YE&TCs to accommodate the
individual learning needs of these at-risk students through the provision of general
education and vocational training programs and specific literacy and numeracy
programs, in a flexible delivery mode – varied times, vocational education and
training courses, correspondence courses, flexible staffing, etc.

Target group: Young people aged between 10-17 years in Queensland detention
centres.

Coverage: Queensland youth detention centres

Timeframe: 2004

Responsible agency: Education Queensland in collaboration with the Department of
Employment and Training and the Department of Families.

Contact: Managers
   Inclusive Learning Unit
   Ph: (07) 3237 0793 / (07) 3235 4213

Website: www.education.gov.au

Transition Officers

Transition Officers are working with staff from forty-four schools in the Brisbane
Northern Corridor to identify issues, provide support and act as a conduit between
TAFE, schools and the Queensland University of Technology.

Target group: Educational staff from school, vocational education and training and
higher education sectors

Coverage: Brisbane North

Timeframe: 2002

Responsible agency: TAFE Queensland, Department of Employment and Training

Contact: Transition Officer
   Ph: (07) 3258 5057 / (07) 3258 5113
   Northpoint Institute of TAFE
   157 Norris Road, Bracken Ridge Qld 4017

Websites: www.detir.qld.gov.au
           www.tafe.net

Glendyne Farm and Youth Training Centre

TAFE Queensland has a co-operative arrangement with Glendyne Farm and Youth
Training Centre to deliver personal development, literacy and numeracy and
vocational programs to youth at risk. Glendyne Farm and Youth Training Centre is an
alternative training program for youth who are ‘at risk’. The centre offers practical
training in an effort to build self esteem and provide skills for employment in the
world of work or for continuing further education.

Target group: Youth at risk between ages of 12–16 (referrals from suspension or
exclusion from schools, Department of Families, Juvenile Justice System, various
counselling agencies, Department of Health).

Coverage: Hervey Bay area

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: TAFE Queensland, Department of Employment and Training and
Flexible Delivery for at Risk School Students

TAFE Queensland combines vocational study and work experience, delivered in an informal and flexible setting to suit school students who have difficulties integrating into the traditional schooling environment. TAFE settings offer the opportunity to gain a full Certificate I in Vocational Access and thus go on to further education, traineeship, apprenticeship or employment.

By providing smaller classes, encouragement and guidance many students have successfully integrated back into the school system and continued with their education. Social skills and study habits are paramount in patterns and development of learning.

Target group: At risk school students aged 15-17 years.

Coverage: Queensland

Timeframe: On-going

Responsible agency: TAFE Queensland, Department of Employment and Training

Contact: Individual TAFE Institutes

Website: [http://www.tafe.net/](http://www.tafe.net/)

Student Support Services

TAFE Queensland offers confidential and professional counselling services to provide guidance and support to students throughout their term of study as part of their core business. Qualified counsellors are based at colleges throughout the State to provide expert guidance to students who are experiencing difficulties with their studies, home life or peer pressures. TAFE institutes offer a variety of specialist resources to assist people with disabilities access vocational education and training. In addition, TAFE Queensland employs Job Liaison Officers to work with local schools to incorporate youth in the broader community and to provide specific support to students unable to establish suitable options for employment and training.

Target group: Persons aged 15 years or older.

Coverage: Queensland

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: TAFE Queensland, Department of Employment and Training

Contact: Individual TAFE Institutes

Website: [http://www.tafe.net/](http://www.tafe.net/)

Youth At Risk Program

This initiative will extend the Youth At Risk Program, a program initiated by the Dusseldorp Foundation. The program is designed to identify young school students in Years 9 and 10 who may not complete their schooling. Those identified are matched to a mentor who provides help and guidance and life skills through to Year 12.
Mentors are selected from retired members of the community. There is a selection process that identifies mentors who are most likely to be successful. Those mentors selected undertake a training program delivered by TAFE institutes.

Target group: At risk school students in Years 9 and 10.

Coverage: Hervey Bay and Gold Coast.

Timeframe: Program to commence in June 2002

Responsible agency: TAFE Queensland, Department of Employment and Training

Contact: TAFE Queensland
Director, Education and Training Services
Wide Bay Institute of TAFE
Ph: (07) 4120 6208

Websites: www.detir.qld.gov.au
www.tafe.net

Cultural Awareness Training for Staff

The Cultural Awareness Training Program is for all Queensland Health staff. It aims to enhance staff’s awareness of the historical, cultural and structural factors underpinning the health concerns of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. This program also raises the awareness of staff to health related issues concerning Indigenous people. The program assists in making Queensland Health services culturally appropriate and accessible to Indigenous young people.

Target group: Queensland Health staff

Coverage: Queensland

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Queensland Health

Contact: Murrinayirabanie Program Co-ordinator
Ph (07) 4616 5545
Training and Development Co-ordinator
Yangulla Centre
Rockamton
Ph (07) 4920 6729
Cross Cultural Trainer
North Queensland Rural Health Training Unit
Ph (07) 4050 8918

Website: www.health.qld.gov.au

Reconciliation Learning Circle Program

The Reconciliation Learning Circle Program for Queensland Health staff further enhances staff’s understanding of Indigenous health issues and concerns and is aimed to strengthen staff’s skills in working collaboratively with Indigenous communities to address those concerns.

Target group: Queensland Health staff

Coverage: Queensland

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Queensland Health

Contact: Policy Officer
Health Promoting Schools Initiatives

The Health Promoting Schools Program will aim to improve and promote health education at the school community level and to create environments that support the health and welfare of the whole community.

Target group: All students at secondary school including Indigenous students.

Coverage: Queensland

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Queensland Health and Education Queensland

Contact: Central Public Health Unit (Brisbane North)
184 St Paul’s Terrace
Fortitude Valley QLD 4006
(07) 3250 8558

Websites: www.health.qld.gov.au
www.education.qld.gov.au

Queensland Indigenous Sexual Assault Health Strategy

The Queensland Indigenous Sexual Assault Health Strategy 2002-2004 will address the high rates of sexually transmissible infections among Indigenous women and men.

Target group: All Indigenous men and women, including Indigenous young people.

Coverage: Queensland


Responsible agency: Queensland Health

Contact: Principal Policy Advisor (Women’s Health)
Queensland Health
(07) 3234 0373

Website: www.health.qld.gov.au

Young Parents Support Program
(also address rec 19)

The Young Parents Support Program seeks to improve the health and well being of young pregnant women, young parents and their children by increasing their access to health and other services through employing youth workers in non-government organisations.

Target group: Young pregnant women and young parents

Coverage: Gold Coast, Logan-Beaudesert, Sunshine Coast and Cairns

Timeframe: Ongoing to 2003

Responsible agency: Queensland Health
Innovative Health Services for Homeless Young People and Health Services for Disadvantaged Young People
(also addresses rec 19)

These Commonwealth and State funded programs deliver outreach and bridging clinical services, innovative health promotion and harm minimization programs through eight community based agencies for young people aged 12-25 years that are homeless or at risk of homelessness. These programs provide a youth friendly contact and referral point for disenfranchised young people.

Target group: Young people aged 12-25 years that are homeless or at risk of homelessness

Coverage: Mt Isa, Woolloongabba, Fortitude Valley, Cairns, Toowoomba, Brisbane, Logan/Woodridge and the Gold Coast

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Queensland Health

Contact: Community Services Manager, Southern Zone
Statewide and non-Government Health Unit
Queensland Health
Ph (07) 3234 1898

Website: www.health.qld.gov.au

Rumble in the Jungle
(also address rec 18 and 19)

The 100% IN CONTROL Rumble in the Jungle is a sport and adventure-based program that looks at crime prevention and alcohol, tobacco and other drug issues for at risk young people. It consists of team-based physical and mental challenges developed around an adventure activity course. Young people are involved in the planning, decision-making and implementation of the event.

This is not a one-off event. During the lead up to main activities, team members participate in team building activities, training events, alcohol, tobacco and other drug education sessions and activities that facilitate the development of trust and team building. Participants follow an extensive team building and self esteem process which includes being introduced to staff of various youth services in their local areas.

Rumble in the Jungle planning and implementation often occurs through the development of local organising committees or other partnership groups.

Target Group: At risk young people 12-17 years of age

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible Agency: Queensland Health

Contact: Senior Project Officer
Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Services
Ph: (07) 3234 0344
Website: www.100incontrol.com

**100% IN CONTROL**
(also addresses rec 18)

100% IN CONTROL is Queensland Health’s alcohol, tobacco and other drug prevention campaign for young people aged 12-17 years. Statewide strategies include sponsorship of the Rock Eisteddfod Challenge and Croc Festival, Rumble in the Jungle, the "Poison" smoking prevention campaign, a website (www.100incontrol.com) and supporting many local initiatives and activities through various tools and resources.

Target Group: Young people 12-17 years old

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible Agency: Queensland Health

Contact: Senior Project Officer
Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Services
Ph: (07) 3234 0344

Website: www.100incontrol.com

**Community Renewal Program - Logan Area**

Logan City Digital Arts Program – Project will fund specialist personnel to manage/facilitate a series of youth digital arts projects. It will also set up seed funds for an initial project in each of the three renewal area in Logan, implement an evaluation strategy and acquire specialist hard/software.

School Holiday Youth Camps – To conduct four 5 day camps for 80 children during school holidays at Tinaroo Sport and Recreation Facility. Activities supervised by trained facilitators and project officer from Garlic (a program of Police Citizens Youth Club). Provision also for two adult volunteers from the Manoora.

Developing Life Skills Amongst Young People – Projects funds Youth Support Worker, lease of 12 seater bus, office establishment and administration costs.

Youth Action Project – Funds two half-time Youth Development Workers for two years to deliver education programs relating to life skills, communication and leadership and to establish access pathways to local employment and training opportunities.

Young People and Community Belonging – 45 young people from Leichhardt, Goodna and Riverview will participate in programs that seek to prevent anti-social behaviour over a 12 month period.

Leichhardt Youth Participation, Consultation and Development Project – Provision of culturally and age appropriate youth program activities for young people 12–17 years of age. Program activities will be delivered by local workers from agencies, schools, and church groups (eg. holiday programs) across a range of venues in Leichhardt.

Target group: Young people

Coverage: A number of community renewal communities across Queensland

Timeframe: Various
The Community Renewal Program - Partnership in Prevention Project
(also address rec 19)

Issues relating to the inclusion of youth in the process of regenerating disadvantaged communities and assisting local youth to develop their lives in positive and constructive ways are key priorities for the Community Renewal program. A number of project initiatives have been funded and are now addressing these issues in renewal areas across Queensland. Most initiatives represent a new approach to meet the needs of the communities and therefore function as pilots to test innovative solutions to social policy issues.

The dominant theme of the youth projects funded by the Community Renewal Program is building self-esteem and creating pathways to positive activities and reducing marginalisation by facilitating relationships with other residents and agencies in the local community.

The Partnership in Prevention Project provides drug and alcohol education programs in three Brisbane South high schools, and targets young people and their families with a focus on early intervention and prevention.

Target group: Young people and their families within the school’s communities.

Coverage: Three Brisbane South high schools (Logan).

Timeframe: Two years

Responsible agency: Department of Housing

Contact: Senior Project Officer
             Community Renewal
             Ph: (07) 3225 2545

Website: www.housing.qld.gov.au

State Emergency Services Cadet Scheme

Two schemes exist: one is school based and receives assistance from the local state emergency services (SES) group for training. The second is a cadet group run internally with each cadet group being attached to an SES regional unit.

Both schemes aims to support the development of young people by providing them the opportunity to participate in forms of counter disaster related voluntary training, which will better equip them for community life.

Target group: Young people aged 8–17 years

Coverage: There are currently 466 male and 348 female cadets. Target groups are represented across the schemes with 55 Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander members, 26 members from Non English Speaking Background and 25 members with a disability

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Emergency Services
The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education to Employment Scheme

This initiative aims to increase the employment opportunities for Indigenous Australians. The scheme offers scholarships to Indigenous students commencing Year 10. The scholarship provides financial assistance and practical support to successful applicants throughout Years 10, 11 and 12. The objectives of the scheme include:

- providing opportunities for work experience that can lead to apprenticeship and traineeship opportunities for young Indigenous people
- encouraging young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to complete their high school education and to consider progressing to tertiary education or employment
- helping Indigenous Queenslanders to gain appropriate skills to enable them to effectively join the work force
- providing an opportunity to be "buddied" with a staff member who will remain in contact with the student, their school and local community throughout the term of participation.

Target group: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) students

Coverage: Statewide.

Timeframe: 2002

Responsible agency: Department of Main Roads initiative but other government agencies now involved including Dept of Transport, Dept of Emergency Services, Dept of Primary Industries, Dept of Public Works, Dept of Natural Resources and Mines. Other government agencies can join at any time.

Contact: Senior Project Consultant
Finance and Business Services
Ph: (07) 3834 5026

Website: www.mainroads.qld.gov.au

School Transport Committee of Review

The School Transport Committee of Review examines cases of school transport assistance which has been requested, generally for students with low-incidence disabilities. Assistance is considered on a case by case basis. Applications are initiated in the relevant school.

Target group: School students, generally with low-incidence disabilities

Coverage: Queensland

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Queensland Transport and Education Queensland

Contact: Chair (currently Queensland Transport)
School Transport Committee of Review

Website: www.transport.qld.gov.au

Learner Licensing Project
The Learner Licensing Project has seen the development of a learner licensing resource to assist people with low levels of literacy understand road rules and road safety.

Target group: People with low levels of literacy, youth and risk-takers.

Coverage: Queensland

Timeframe: 2001-2003

Responsible agency: Queensland Transport

Website: www.transport.qld.gov.au

Queensland Government Youth Suicide Prevention Strategy
(also addresses recs 18 and 19)

The aim of the QGYSPS is "to prevent self-harming behaviour, particularly youth suicide, and to reduce the impact of youth suicide on families and communities through coordinated and integrated life affirming strategies which enhance the quality of life for young people, their families and their communities".

The cornerstone of the QGYSPS is the establishment of local community networks to strengthen the capacity of families and communities to take ownership of suicide prevention and respond to the needs of young people at the local level. The QGYSPS identified a range of strategies for communities to consider across the spectrum of prevention, early intervention, treatment, and postvention.

Target group: Young people aged 15-24 years of age

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: The Queensland Government Youth Suicide Prevention Strategy is a whole of Government initiative that is chaired by the Department of Premier and Cabinet and involves the Department of Employment and Training, Queensland Health, Education Queensland, Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Policy and the Department of Families.

www.premiers.qld.gov.au

Peer Support System
(also addresses recs 18 and 19)

The program is for Indigenous prisoners who require personal support to cope with issues relating to incarceration. The program is offered at Townsville Correctional Centre and Lotus Glen Correctional Centre in Mareeba. The department also provides opportunities for peer support to non-Indigenous prisoners, particularly young offenders, who may be at risk within all correctional centres.

Target group: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander offenders including youth

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Corrective Services

Contact: Adviser Workplace Practices
        Ph: (07) 3405 6292

Website: www.dcs.qld.gov.au

The Elder Visits Program
The Elder Visits Program
(also addresses 18 and 19)

The Elder Visits Program sees Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders visit offenders in correctional centres. They regularly meet young offenders for non-structured meetings sharing news about their families and providing updates on community events, aiding their cultural awareness and personal development. In the case of the youth detention centre they provide assistance where applicable in the transition from youth to adult facilities.

Target group: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander offenders including youth

Coverage: Elder groups are located in Brisbane, Cairns, Townsville, Rockhampton and Cherbourg

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Corrective Services

Contact: Adviser Workplace Practices
    Ph: (07) 3405 6292

Website: www.dcs.qld.gov.au

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Literacy Program
(also addresses 18 and 19)

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander prisoners participate in literacy assessment and training in all correctional centres. During 2001, 321 Indigenous prisoners participated in literacy education programs state wide. This number represents an Indigenous participation rate of 24%.

Target group: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander offenders including youth

Coverage: Townsville

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Corrective Services

Contact: Adviser Workplace Practices
    Ph: (07) 3405 6292

Website: www.dcs.qld.gov.au

Community Employment Assistance Program
(also addresses rec 19)

Community organisations are funded to provide intensive employment and training assistance including post placement support/mentoring. Grants totalling $18 million were approved for 328 projects throughout Queensland for organisations to assist 14,497 long-term unemployed people gain better skills and more job opportunities with 4,897 gaining jobs. 40% of those assisted were youth and 37% who gained employment were youth.

Target group: Long-term unemployed and those at risk of being long term unemployed.

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: The program is funded over six financial years to 30 June 2004.

Responsible agency: Department of Employment and Training

Contact: Manager
    Community Employment Programs
Community Employment Programs
Ph: (07) 3225 2113
Website: www.employment.qld.gov.au/programs.htm

Get Set for Work
(also addresses recs 20, 21 and 22)

Intensive training and employment assistance and wage subsidy for project participants who gain employment.

Target group: Unemployed early school leavers aged 15-24 years in communities of high youth unemployment.

Coverage: 35 projects worth $2.94 million have been approved assisting 952 participants. 89 youths have already gained employment. Activity is limited to 15 areas across the State identified as experiencing high levels of youth unemployment.

Timeframe: The program is funded from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002

Responsible agency: Department of Employment and Training
Contact: Manager
Community Employment Programs
Ph: (07) 3225 2113

Website: www.employment.qld.gov.au/programs.htm

Youth Re-connected

This is a package of six local initiatives that deliver literacy and numeracy training, vocational access, mentoring and intervention programs aimed at maximising the young people’s education and training opportunities. Each initiative is designed to retain young people in education or training within the local community and encourages students to take control of their own learning. These programs strengthen transition pathways from school to further education, training and sustainable employment for young people at risk.

Target group: Young people at risk of leaving school early.

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: 2002

Responsible agency: Department of Employment and Training
Contact: Senior Policy Officer
Strategic Directions
Ph: (07) 3836 0165

Review of Pathways Articulation

An external review of pathways articulation through the post-compulsory years of school and the post-school years to further education, training and labour market participation is being undertaken.

The review will provide advice to the Queensland government on ways of establishing effective articulation between courses, credentials, experiences and settings offered to young people by schools, TAFE institutes, private education providers, universities and industry in Queensland. It will also examine current best practice nationally and internationally, looking at mechanisms to enable young people to navigate the education, and training systems.

The review will focus on four main themes:
learning and skills options – student plans for action
connecting the sectors
access for all – addressing local differences
guidance in a complex field

Target group: Youth aged 15-24 years, with special emphasis on the needs of at risk young people.

Coverage: Queensland

Timeframe: The review is expected to report in mid 2002.

Responsible agency: Department of Employment and Training and Education Queensland

Contact: Project Director
Strategic Directions
(07) 3404 3510

Local Government Development Program

The program provides financial assistance to local governments to support recreation planning and participation initiatives and to develop places to increase participation in sport and active recreation such as cycleways, walkways and walking trails.

Target group: Local governments

Coverage: Statewide

Timeframe: June 2004

Responsible agency: Department of Innovation and Information Economy - Sport and Recreation

Contact: Director
Program Management and Development
Ph: (07) 3237 0284

Website: http://www.sportrec.qld.gov.au

Indigenous Community Development Program

The program provides funding to Indigenous community councils and organisations to support planning, education, training and participation initiatives and to support the employment of community sport and recreation officers.

Target group: Aboriginal community councils, Torres Strait Islander community councils and not-for-profit Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations or clubs

Coverage: Statewide

Timeframe: June 2004

Responsible agency: Department of Innovation and Information Economy - Sport and Recreation

Contact: Director
Program Management and Development
Ph: (07) 3237 0284

Website: http://www.sportrec.qld.gov.au

Locker Rooms

"Locker Rooms" forums provide an opportunity for coaches, officials, teachers...
Locker Rooms forums provide an opportunity for coaches, officials, teachers, athletes, administrators, students and parents to exchange ideas and share in the knowledge and experiences gained by high profile coaches, officials and industry professionals.

Target group: Coaches, officials, teachers, athletes, administrators, students and parents

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: June 2004

Responsible agency: Department of Innovation and Information Economy - Sport and Recreation

Contact: Director
   Program Management and Development
   Ph: (07) 3237 0284

Website: [http://www.sportrec.qld.gov.au](http://www.sportrec.qld.gov.au)

Teacher/Coach Accreditation Program

In partnership with the Australian Council for Health, Physical Education and Recreation, Education Queensland and State sporting organisations, this pilot initiative will deliver coaching education and training to over 200 teachers. Initially, coaching courses will take place in South East Queensland, South West Queensland and Townsville to link with the Get Active Queensland Schools Program. The initiative will lead to improved quality of school sports participation and enhance the relationship and communication between all parties involved with the project. The accreditation courses will include a mix of popular school summer and winter sports such as rugby league, rugby, soccer, baseball, softball, volleyball, netball, athletics, touch, swimming and Australian Rules football.

Target group: Teachers

Coverage: Statewide

Timeframe: June 2004

Responsible agency: Department of Innovation and Information Economy - Sport and Recreation

Contact: Director
   Program Management and Development
   Ph: (07) 3237 0284

Website: [http://www.sportrec.qld.gov.au](http://www.sportrec.qld.gov.au)

Community Skills Development Program in ICT

The program is designed to increase the level of ICT skills within the wider community of Queensland. This is achieved through the provision of funding to community service organisations in small (less than 10,000 population) rural, regional and remote Queensland communities to provide on-site training in the use of ICT to members and develop technology resources such as databases and websites to enhance the value of the organisation to the community.

Target group: Young people and youth workers

Coverage: Small rural, regional and remote communities

Timeframe: 2000-2003

Responsible agency: Department of Innovation and Information Economy – Sport
Rock Eisteddfod Challenge Sponsorship
(also addresses rec 18)

Queensland Health provides major naming rights sponsorship of the Rock Eisteddfod Challenge in Queensland through the 100% IN CONTROL alcohol, tobacco, and other drug prevention program for young people. Queensland Health’s sponsorship of the Rock Eisteddfod Challenge is used as a general education and drug prevention vehicle, in addition to giving young people an opportunity to produce and stage a performance. It also aims to increase resiliency factors among participating students, including school and community connectedness. Events are staged in five sites across Queensland, with 5,000 direct participants in 2001.

Target group: Queensland secondary school students

Coverage: Queensland schools with secondary students

Timeframe: Ongoing 2001-2003

Responsible agency: Rock Eisteddfod Challenge Pty Ltd with sponsorship from Queensland Health, various Commonwealth Departments and media agencies.

Contact: Senior Project Officer
Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Services
Ph: (07) 3234 0344

Rock Eisteddfod Challenge Sponsorship
Ph: (02) 9417 4122

Website: www.rockchallenge.com.au

Croc Festival Sponsorship
(also address rec 18)

Queensland Health is the major naming rights sponsor of the Croc Festival in Queensland through the 100% IN CONTROL alcohol, tobacco and other drug prevention program for young people. Substantial sponsorship of the Croc Festival is also provided by Education Queensland. Croc Festival sponsorship is used as an education and drug prevention vehicle, in addition to giving young people an opportunity to produce and stage a performance. It also aims to increase resiliency factors among participating students, including school and community connectedness, school attendance, reconciliation and outcomes and self-esteem. The Croc Festival has been staged in Wepia since its inception in 1998, until 2001 which marked the first event hosted by Thursday Island in the Torres Strait.

Target group: Indigenous and non-Indigenous school students in remote communities

Coverage: Schools in remote Queensland communities

Timeframe: Ongoing 2004-2003

Responsible agency: Indigenous Festivals of Australia Ltd with sponsorship from Queensland Health, Education Queensland, various Commonwealth Departments and other organisations.
Contact: Senior Project Officer
Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Services
Ph: (07) 3234 0344

Indigenous Festivals of Australia Limited
Ph: (02) 9417 4122

Website: www.crocfestivals.org.au
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 20

Victoria

Local Learning and Employment Networks
A central aim of each LLEN is to develop local education and training initiatives for 15 -19 year olds, which may include new programs, or packages developed in response to the specific needs and priorities LLENs identifies in their local community.

Target group: Young people aged 15-19 years
Coverage: Metropolitan, rural and regional communities across Victoria
Timeframe: 2001-2004
Responsible Agency: Department of Education and Training
Website: www.det.vic.gov.au/det/

Managed Individual Pathways Initiative
This initiative involves:
- developing effective Network and Partnerships
- delivering support as Managed Individual Pathways
- providing ready access to a range of learning opportunities which recognise the needs of the young person as identified within the Pathways Plan

Target group: Students aged 15 - 19 years (mainly Year 10 -12 students)
Coverage: State wide in government schools, TAFE and ACE sectors
Timeframe: 2001-2003
Responsible Agency: Department of Education and Training
Website: www.det.vic.gov.au/det/

Regional Youth Committees
These committees, in existence since 1994, provide advice to the Minister for Youth Affairs and the Director, Office for Youth on youth related matters within a particular region.

Target group: Young people aged 12 - 25 years; youth service providers
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible Agency: Office for Youth, Department of Education and Training
Website: www.det.vic.gov.au/det/

Youth Pathways Program
This program provides funding to deliver training to at-risk young people and provide support to assist the young person to remain in the training.

Target group: Young people aged 15 - 17 years who have left school, have not completed Year 12, are eligible for the Youth Allowance and are not employed are priorities of this program
Coverage: TAFE Institutes and ACE organisations State wide
Timeframe: 2001 - 2002
Responsible Agency: The Office of Training and Tertiary Education, Department of Education and Training
Website: www.det.vic.gov.au/det/

Koori Youth Group
This program provides a youth centre for Koori youth to meet, participate in activities and learn new skills and positive behaviours with mentors to support them.

Target group: Young Aboriginal people aged 11 - 25 years
Coverage: La Trobe Valley (Morwell, Traralgon, Moe, Churchill)
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible Agency: Indigenous Issues Unit, Portfolio Planning, Department of Justice
Website: www.justice.vic.gov.au

Bridging the Gap
This initiative aims to assist exiting prisoners by providing transitional support for high risk and high needs younger prisoners with significant substance abuse issues.
Target group: Young people aged 17-30 years exiting prison with identified reintegration needs.
Coverage: Metropolitan Melbourne.
Timeframe: This two year pilot program commenced in April 2001
Responsible Agency: Office of the Correctional Services Commissioner, Department of Justice
Website: www.justice.vic.gov.au
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 20

Northern Territory

Irrkerlanyere Learning Centre

Irrkerlanyere Learning Centre is an education and community development program managed by Centralian College in partnership with Ngkarte Mikekenhe Community and Tangentyere Council. The program addresses the needs of a specific extended Indigenous family group in Alice Springs through providing a literacy and numeracy focus for young people and a community development focus for families. It is a locally developed program to address a specific local issue.

Before the establishment of the program these young people rarely attended secondary school. It was found that the most successful way of engaging this specific group of disadvantaged youth was by providing opportunities for the whole family and to have a family focus on learning and community development. Consequently the program has adopted an inter-generational approach to service delivery where the holistic needs of youth and families are addressed.

Through this partnership approach and through linking with other support agencies individual students are cased managed and have Individual Learning Plans as well as participating in social and emotional well-being programs through linked agencies.

Target group: Young eastern Arrernte people and families
Coverage: Alice Springs
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible agency: Department Employment, Education and Training
Website: www.education.nt.gov.au

NT Police Juvenile Pre-Court Diversion Scheme - Community Youth Development Units (CYDU)

The NT Police Juvenile Diversion Units are presently facilitating the development of CYDUs throughout Territory remote communities. These units will develop specific plans for youth at risk in these communities and further provide opportunities for all youth in the community. CYDUs are already operating in Tennant Creek and Wadeye. The CYDUs apply a holistic approach to the needs of juveniles. This includes consideration of education, health, welfare, sport, recreation, training and employment needs. A priority of the units will be to develop plans that will give a very high priority to education needs in consultation with the local education institution.

Target group: Juveniles and youth
Coverage: Remote communities
Timeframe:
Responsible agency: Northern Territory Police
NT Police Juvenile Pre-Court Diversion Scheme - case management and mentoring services

The NT Government has recently awarded contracts under the Scheme for the provision of $3M in case management and mentoring services. The contracted service providers will attend all police conferences conducted with offending juveniles and assist in the management of juveniles who are referred to programs. These programs will often include education aspects for which the case managers will have to make arrangements with the appropriate agency or institution.

Target group: Juveniles

Coverage: Darwin, Katherine and Alice Springs

Timeframe:

Responsible agency: Northern Territory Police

Proposed Initiative name: Partnerships

1. Local Education Advisory Boards (LEABS)

LEABs will be established in communities to support the full engagement of Indigenous people in improving educational outcomes of Indigenous students in the Northern Territory. Four pilot communities will be selected in 2002.

The aim of the pilots will be to establish educational advisory boards with appropriate community leadership. The pilots could be established in community schools or cluster schools within linguistically and culturally affiliated regions.

LEAB's, with departmental support, will develop community education plans to aid in the implementation of the Department of Employment, Education and Training Indigenous Education 5-Year Strategic Plan, NIELNS and IESIP Agreements.

2. Self Managed Schools

Provision to be made for community control over education decision-making processes, while establishing clear benchmarks for expected improvements.

It is envisioned that the Local Education Advisory Board will be the management group for a self managed school.

This initiative seeks to achieve:

- Local responsibility for the maintenance and development of community well being and human resources
- Community capacity to embrace educational and social change
- Efficient and effective consultation and reporting processes
- Flexible and creative community direction to the school principal for delivery and resourcing of school programs.

3. Ongoing partnership development

Partnerships will foster collaboration from all stakeholders in achieving common goals in education. They will seek to improve Indigenous student outcomes through:

- Engagement and involvement of key local leaders in the development and maintenance of the partnerships
- Building relationships and linkages between relevant stakeholders, activities and programs at the local and regional level.
• Collaborative utilisation of human, material and financial resources.
• Encouragement and support of improved communication through networking between key stakeholders at the community and regional level
• Harnessing expertise, building knowledge, and encouraging and assisting relevant data gathering and research
• Activities such as collaborative planning and development, consultation, two way communication and the gathering of information integral to the successful implementation of the local and regional plans.
• Sharing information and ideas (networking) between organisations and communities across the NT
• Organisational and community based workshops and services aimed at supporting the development and implementation of the strategic plans
• Contact with Commonwealth and Territory officers to foster shared knowledge of government processes and identify and create linkages with broad organisational and community processes.

Target group: Whole Community
Coverage: Territory Wide
Timeframe: 2002 - 2004
Responsible agency: Department Employment, Education and Training
Website: www.education.nt.gov.au
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 20

South Australia

Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP)

The aim of SAAP is to assist:

- People who are homeless and in crisis
- People who are at imminent risk of becoming homeless
- People who are experiencing domestic violence and are homeless in crisis, or at imminent risk of becoming homeless.

Target group: Youth specific component

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Human Services - Metro Division

Website: [www.dhs.sa.gov.au](http://www.dhs.sa.gov.au)

Ceduna Bush Breakaway Project

For young Aboriginal people at risk who are repeat offenders. Involves a mentoring component, and involvement of Elders and a family conferencing component and will develop a culturally appropriate diversion model for Aboriginal young offenders

Target group: Aboriginal young people

Coverage: Ceduna

Timeframe: Pilot

Responsible agency: Department of Human Services - Aboriginal Services Division

Website: [www.dhs.sa.gov.au](http://www.dhs.sa.gov.au)

Community Residential Care

Young people unable to live at home with a history of multiple placement and young people in this system are at risk of entry to juvenile justice system, a significant % have current orders.

Target group: 12-18

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Human Services - Country and Disability Services - FAYS

Website: [www.dhs.sa.gov.au](http://www.dhs.sa.gov.au)
**Home Detention**
Provides alternative to secure care remand and detention. Intensive case managed and supervised service using electronic monitoring and 24-hour surveillance.

Target group: 12-18
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Human Services - Country and Disability Services - FAYS

Website: [www.dhs.sa.gov.au](http://www.dhs.sa.gov.au)

**Reunification**
Case planning, casework, case management to assist children to return safely to birth families (for children and young people voluntarily placed in care, or under protection order).

Target group: 0-18
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Human Services - Country and Disability Services - FAYS

Website: [www.dhs.sa.gov.au](http://www.dhs.sa.gov.au)

**Youth at Risk**
Young people at risk. Reconnect young people to education. Young people have designed a web site on crime and safety issues.

Target group: 12-15
Coverage: Metropolitan
Timeframe: Pilot

Responsible agency: Department of Human Services - Country and Disability Services - FAYS

Website: [www.dhs.sa.gov.au](http://www.dhs.sa.gov.au)

**Carclew Youth Arts Centre**
Carclew aims to develop and provide programs of excellence in all art forms for children and young people to the age of 26 years, including disconnected young people. Carclew delivers arts workshops, activities, training, volunteering, skill development, networking and performance opportunities for all young people.

Target group: Under 26
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Carclew Youth Arts Centre

**Young People, Crime Prevention and the Arts Initiative**

Arts SA in partnership with the Office of Crime Prevention (Justice Portfolio) is developing a joint initiative targeting young people "at risk", using arts activity (eg drama, contemporary music, or visual art) as the medium.

The objective is to offer high quality opportunities for young people to explore and express their creativity and their aspirations, provide pathways to employment and other community support systems, and to demonstrate to young people that their contributions are valued and respected.

To be jointly funded initially by Arts SA and the Office of Crime Prevention.

**Target group:** 10-18 years  
**Coverage:** State wide  
**Timeframe:** In operation by June 2002  
**Responsible agency:** Arts SA and the Office of Crime Prevention  
**Website:** [www.arts.sa.gov.au](http://www.arts.sa.gov.au)

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**active8 Premier's Youth Challenge**

active8 provides training and community participation opportunities for young South Australians through partnerships between schools, community, youth organisations and young people.

active8 promotes in young people leadership, team work, community service, individual responsibility, self-reliance and confidence, skills development, respect for others and communication skills.

Twenty service providers work in partnership with host organisations to deliver the program in places as geographically diverse as Allendale East, Keith Loxton, Streaky Bay and Coober Pedy. The broad range of service providers includes: Air Force Cadets, Air Youth, Army and Navy Cadet Corps, Carclew Youth Arts Centre, Conservation Volunteers Australia, Country Fire Service, Police, Red Cross, Royal Life Saving, Surf Life Saving, Scouts and Guides, State Emergency Service and St John Ambulance.

The active8 Premier's Youth Challenge is an initiative in which the partnerships between government, the community sector and the private sector provide significant benefits for the young people of South Australia.

**Target group:** 15-19 year olds not engaged in formal education and year 8-12 students in government and non-government schools  
**Coverage:** State wide  
**Timeframe:** Dec 2003  
**Responsible agency:** Department of Education Training and Employment-Office of Employment and Youth  
**Website:** [www.dete.sa.gov.au](http://www.dete.sa.gov.au)

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**Partnership and Outreach Education Models (POEMs)**

Regional networks will ensure broad cross sectoral partnerships involving the education, community and business sectors are instrumental in building education and training pathways for young people unable to participate in mainstream education.

POEMS will be developed where:
Education and training services are delivered in settings where young people gather and are comfortable
Local partnerships involving youth and community agencies, schools, training providers and local employers are essential
Education and training approaches are developed and delivered in consultation with young people
Foundation and employability skills are a primary focus

Young people at risk or disconnected have:

- opportunities to develop their understanding of work culture.
- Vocation experiences in supportive and well supervised work settings
- Opportunities to participate in SWL, obtain employability competence in IT use.

Target group: Young people who are disconnected from mainstream education and training

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: 2002 - 2003

Responsible agency: Department of Education Training and Employment - Enterprise and Voc. Ed.

Website: [www.dete.sa.gov.au](http://www.dete.sa.gov.au)

**Transition Support Networks**

Regional networks will, through Transition Support Networks develop approaches to career and transition support which will provide assistance to young people and their families. It will be driven by local partnerships and will allow regional networks to respond collaboratively to the needs of young people and the local community.

The project aims to support transition support networks to:

- Set their own locally relevant objectives within the agreed Career and Transition Management Framework
- Design their own advisory and planning structures and local action structures
- Pool local, state and CW bodies to support local initiatives
- Support 13-19 year olds, especially young people who are disconnected from schools or are at risk of leaving school early, by strengthening their abilities to make successful transitions to post school options.

Target group: 13 -19 year olds, especially those who are at risk or disconnected

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: 2002-2003

Responsible agency: Department of Education Training and Employment - Enterprise and Voc. Ed.

Website: [www.dete.sa.gov.au](http://www.dete.sa.gov.au)

**Tutorial centres**

Tutorial Centres are a joint Department of Education Training and Employment/ DHS initiative for students in the metropolitan area. These centres are situated in various locations within pre-existing youth services eg 'Shopfront'. Tutors work with students in an informal environment, including flexible hours, on improving literacy and numeracy while developing links back into a more formal school environment.

Target group: Young people with chronic offending and non-attendance patterns known to DHS and Department of Education Training and Employment services.
Youth initiatives

- Youth section of OCBA’s Website
- ‘Before you Splash your Cash’ brochure

OCBA does not have any specific initiatives to address these recommendations however there are a range of packages which can be incorporated in bigger strategies. Eg, OCBA maintains a range of financial, renting and purchasing advice specifically aimed at younger people who are trying to make their respective ways in late teens or early adulthood.

OCBA is also a regular contributor to school curriculum work on consumer-related issues by providing materials and presentations. OCBA can provide supporting information to teachers who want to equip students with basic personal survival and life skills in the areas mentioned above as well as provide presentations to groups of students and has regularly done so in the school environment.

Target group: Any age

Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible agency: Office of Consumer and Business Affairs (OCBA) - AGD
Website: http://www.ocba.sa.gov.au/

Youth Court - Family Conferencing Team

The Family Conference Team provides a service to youth and victims of crime, where the coordinator facilitates conferences between a young offender and the victim of the offence including a police officer.

The aim of the meeting is to attempt to use a restorative model to implement 'care and correction' principles, as outlined in the Young Offenders Act, for the young person to not re-offend. Each outcome is specifically tailored to the young person and victim's circumstances.

Target group: Young offenders 10-17

Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible agency: Courts Administration Authority
Website: http://www.courts.sa.gov.au/
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 20

New South Wales

Helping Young People at Risk Program

The Helping Young People at Risk Program (HYPAR) assists the most disadvantaged young people in the community to access vocational education and training opportunities. Resources are allocated to TAFE NSW Institutes to implement innovative programs in partnership with schools, other government agencies and community groups to address the needs of young people at risk.

Target group: Young People at Risk.

Coverage: All Institutes of TAFE NSW.

Timeframe: The HYPAR program is a six-year initiative that commenced in the 1999/2000 financial year.


Website: www.det.nsw.gov.au

Learning Works

The Learning Works program is an enterprise education and vocational learning program designed to maximise education, training and employment outcomes for Aboriginal students in government high schools.

The program targets the retaining and re-engaging of Aboriginal young people in education and training through resourcing, supporting training and development of local partnership-based programs designed to generate greater equity of outcomes in school-based vocational learning.

Target group: Aboriginal students in Years 9 to 12.

Coverage: Learning Works is being implemented across NSW.

Timeframe: 2002 (12 months program).

Responsible agency: NSW Department of Education and Training.

Website: www.det.nsw.gov.au

Aboriginal Careers Aspirations Program

The Aboriginal Careers Aspirations Program (ACAP) is a careers awareness and education program for Aboriginal students in Years 6-8. The twelve month program is funded by the NSW Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST) for Aboriginal students in NSW government schools and Catholic Education Commission (CEC) schools.

Target group: Aboriginal students in Years 6 to 8.

Coverage: Selected government and Catholic schools across the State.
Timeframe: 2002 (12 months program).

Responsible agency: NSW Department of Education and Training.

Website: www.det.nsw.gov.au
**Initiatives targeting Recommendation 20**

**Tasmania**

**The Mobile Activity Centre (MAC)**
The Police and Citizens Youth club interacts with disaffected youth in their own environment. MAC provides educational activities, supportive health and welfare information, leisure and recreation. MAC has been seen improve relations between youth at risk of offending and the police force.

Target Group: Youth  
Coverage: State wide  
Timeframe: Current  
Responsible Agency: Police Tasmania  

**National Youth Week**
Thirty-five organizations throughout Tasmania arranged more than 150 different events including concerts, festivals, dances, forums, open days, sporting activities and workshops in 2001.

Coverage: State wide  
Timeframe: Annual  
Responsible Agency: Department of Youth Affairs  
Website: [www.youthaffairs.tas.gov.au](http://www.youthaffairs.tas.gov.au)

**Youth Services Funding to Small Local Council**
Thirteen councils received seed grants for youth programs. Funded programs included development of youth policies and strategies, establishment and support of youth advisory groups and a mentoring and community involvement program.

Coverage: State wide  
Timeframe: Annual  
Responsible Agency: Department of Youth Affairs

**Community-Based Youth Advisory Services**
Three regional Youth Co-ordinating Committees recently undertook a collaborative and consultative process to select a range of innovative and locally relevant ways of providing advisory information to young people in their regions.

Coverage: State wide  
Timeframe: Annual
Responsible Agency: Department of Youth Affairs
Website: www.youthaffairs.tas.gov.au
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 20

Western Australia

**Students at Educational Risk (SAER) Strategy, Making the Difference**

Strategy requires interagency liaison which may involve development of localised resource packages.

- **Target group:** Yr 8 - 12
- **Coverage:** State wide
- **Timeframe:** Ongoing
- **Responsible Agency:** Department of Education
- **Website:** [www.eddept.wa.edu.au](http://www.eddept.wa.edu.au)

**VET In Schools**

Advice on developing personal support plans included in Work Readiness Kit.

- **Target group:** Yr 8 - 12
- **Coverage:** State wide
- **Timeframe:** Ongoing
- **Responsible Agency:** Department of Education
- **Website:** [www.eddept.wa.edu.au](http://www.eddept.wa.edu.au)

**Regional Access**

Regional Access is an interactive website providing young people in regional Western Australia with improved access to regional employment / training services, career planning advice and general youth services.

- **Target group:** Young people in regional Western Australia
- **Coverage:** State wide
- **Timeframe:** Ongoing
- **Responsible agency:** Department of Training
- **Website:** [www.training.wa.gov.au](http://www.training.wa.gov.au)

**Joblinks**

The Joblink program is a community-based employment service, which provides a range of activities to assist local job seekers into employment or training.

Joblink services and activities include:
• employment counselling;
• advice and assistance with job search techniques; and
• support for school leavers to access employment.

Target group: Local communities and youth specific
Coverage: Metropolitan and regional localities
Timeframe: 2002
Responsible agency: Department of Training
Website: www.training.wa.gov.au

Competitively Allocated Training (CAT)
Through its youth at risk stream, the program provides support for vocational education and training (VET) providers to implement upper secondary education and VET programs.

Target group: Youth at risk
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible agency: Department of Training
Website: www.training.wa.gov.au

Aboriginal School-Based Traineeship Program
This program provides an integrated approach towards the education and vocational training of young Aboriginal students in order to increase school retention rates and reduce unemployment.

Target group: Students are drawn principally from post-compulsory school years. The minimum age for a traineeship is 15 years.
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible agency: Department of Training, Community Development Employment Projects, Education Department
Website: www.training.wa.gov.au

Career Plus Caravan
Career caravan is a mobile service with a resource supervisor/career counsellor to provide career counselling and information services.

Target group: Youth, Teachers, parents, mature aged and general community
Coverage: South Metropolitan region
Timeframe: 2002
Responsible agency: Department of Training
Website: www.training.wa.gov.au

Access All Areas
A State Government initiative that aims to inform young people of employment
options and encourage exploration into new ways of looking for work. It provides
greater access to relevant information, an expanded range of services and better
access to more jobs

Target group: Young people aged 15-25
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible agency: Department of Training
Website: www.training.wa.gov.au

GetAccess
GetAccess is an interactive website for Western Australians seeking career,
employment and training related information and services.

Target group: All age groups and youth specifically
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible agency: Department of Training
Website: www.training.wa.gov.au
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 20

Australian Capital Territory

Student Support Unit

A Student Support Unit has been established within the Student Support Services section of the ACT Department of Education and Community Services. The unit is staffed by a System Literacy Officer, a Transition Pathways Officer and two youth workers. The Unit works with students, parents, schools and the community to ensure a smooth transition from school to employment, training or higher education. Focus areas of the unit include literacy, numeracy, interagency collaboration, behaviour management, transition from high school to college and innovative curriculum and pedagogy.

The unit is developing a model Transition Pathway Plan which builds in accessibility for all young people, flexibility in supporting transitions from school to work and further study and competency in literacy and numeracy necessary for success in further training.

The unit is working with secondary sector staff who are supporting young people with high needs. The section has produced a research based professional development model that values: flexibility in approach; new ways to think about practice; engagement in rich literacy experiences; praxis of effective learning and teaching; and sustainable lifelong learning through the development of professional learning communities; support students at risk of dropping out of school and also their teachers.

Target Group: ACT Government School students

Coverage: Territory wide

Timeframe: 2002-2004

Responsible Agency: ACT Department of Education and Community Services

Contact Information: Student Support Unit, (02) 6205 9198

Website: [www.decs.act.gov.au](http://www.decs.act.gov.au)
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 20

Commonwealth

Jobs Pathways Programme (JPP)

The Jobs Pathway Programme assists young people aged between 15-19 who intend to make the transition from school to work, further education or training within the following 12 months. JPP service providers are contracted by the Commonwealth to provide a range of services to eligible young people.

Target group: The Programme specifically targets assistance to young people in one or more of the following groups:

- those who are participating in a school-industry programme which does not entail an employment outcome;
- those that would benefit from a school-based New Apprenticeship;
- those with poor literacy and numeracy skills;
- those from a non-English speaking background;
- those whose highest level of secondary studies is or was Years 9, 10, or 11; and
- Indigenous Australians

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Education, Science and Training

Website: www.dest.gov.au

Partnership Outreach Education Model (POEM)

The Pilots will provide opportunities for 'disconnected young people' to engage in accredited education and training with the ultimate aim of assisting participants to reengage in mainstream education when they become ready.

Target group: 'Disconnected young people' aged 13 - 19 for whom mainstream education is not a viable option

Coverage: A national trial is underway

Timeframe: 2002 - 2003

Responsible agency: Department of Education, Science and Training

Website: www.dest.gov.au

Career and Transition (CATS) Pilots

During the 2002 school year, twenty three Career and Transition Pilot (CATS) projects across Australia are exploring methodologies for and testing ways to enhance career and transition support to young people aged 13-19 years. The pilot projects will offer improved career and transition information, support, guidance and advice and will include the development of individual learning pathways plans
focusing on young peoples transitions through school and from school to further education, training and work, prepared with the support of dedicated Transition Advisors. Local partnerships between schools, the community, government and industry as well as links with families are an integral part of these projects.

The CAT projects have been developed as part of the Government's response to the Youth Pathways Action Plan Taskforce's Report Footprints to the Future, in particular to recommendations 4, 5 and 6.

The Career and Transition (CAT) Pilots contain four major components:
- Community Partnership Committees
- dedicated Career and Transition Advisers;
- Learning Pathways Plans for young people aged 13 - 19; and
- testing ways of tracking the transitions of young people for 18 months post school

Target Group: Young people aged 13-19

Geographical Coverage: 23 projects will operate across a variety if setting in metropolitan, regional and remote areas of Australia.

Timeframe: 12 months from April 2002

Contact: Director
Transition Partnerships Section
Enterprise and Career Education Branch
Department of Education, Science and Training

Responsible Agency: Department of Education, Science and Training

Website: [www.dest.gov.au](http://www.dest.gov.au)

**National Indigenous English Literacy and Numeracy Programme (NIELNS)**

The objective of the National Indigenous English Literacy and Numeracy Strategy is to achieve English literacy and numeracy for Indigenous students at levels comparable to those achieved by other young Australians.

The strategy acknowledges that extra effort is required by education providers for Indigenous students to be successful and aims to address six key elements:
- Achieving Attendance
- Overcoming Hearing, Health and Nutrition Problems
- Preschooling Experiences
- Getting Good Teachers
- Using the Best Teaching Methods
- Measuring Success, Achieving Accountability

Under the NIELNS, DEST funds a range of projects that provide personalised support, community learning environments, and vocational learning experiences to young Indigenous people who are at risk of disconnection or who have become disconnected. Some initiatives focus specifically on the issue of literacy and/or numeracy whilst others seek to improve educational outcomes via other means such as increasing attendance rates, involving parents and the community, addressing health issues and mentoring.

Target Group: Indigenous Young People

Coverage: National

Timeframe: 2000 to 2004

Contact: Branch Manager
ECEF - WADU Indigenous Youth Partnerships Initiatives

The Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST) has provided funding to the Enterprise and Career Education Foundation (ECEF) to manage and deliver the Wadu Indigenous Youth Partnership Initiative (IYIP) from June 2000 to the end of 2002. IYPI builds onto ECEF's existing Wadu strategy.

Wadu IYPI is addressing young Indigenous people's relative disadvantage in education, training and employment. This involves a 'whole of community' approach to supporting Indigenous youth to remain at or return to school, and provides a reliable pathway from schooling to training and employment and onto independence. IYPI complements and forms part of the broader Federal Government's National Indigenous English Literacy and Numeracy Strategy.

To May 2002, twenty IYPI projects had been run nation-wide with the two most recent additions being in the Cape York and Newcastle regions under a model of collaboration between ECEF, DEST, the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR), Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC), Family and Community Services (FaCS) and the Department of Health and Ageing.

Target Group: Indigenous Young People
Coverage: National
Timeframe: June 2000 - December 2002
Contact: Branch Manager
Indigenous Policy Development and Co-ordination Branch
Ph: (02) 6240 7720

Responsible Agency: Department of Education, Science and Training through the Enterprise and Career Education Foundation

Australians Working Together - Indigenous Education and Training

Under Australians Working Together, DEST will consult with ECEF regarding the development of projects to encourage increased vocational learning opportunities for Indigenous secondary school students.

Target Group: Indigenous Young People
Coverage: National
Timeframe:
Contact: Branch Manager
Indigenous Policy Development and Co-ordination Branch
Ph: (02) 6240 7720
Website: www.dest.gov.au

'Reconnect' (formerly Youth Homelessness Early Intervention Program)

Reconnect provides early intervention support to young people aged 12 to 18 who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and their families. The objectives of
Reconnect is to improve the level of engagement of homeless young people, or those at risk of homelessness, with family, work, education, training and the community. As at March 2002, 93 Reconnect services are operating nationally and a further 7 are being established through community development processes. This will bring the total number of Reconnect services to 100.

Six Reconnect services specifically focus on Indigenous young people, their families and communities. The Department is working with an additional seven Indigenous communities in remote, rural and metropolitan areas to establish specific services to address the needs of local young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their families.

Target Group: Young people aged 12 to 18 who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and their families

Coverage: As at March 2002, 93 Reconnect services are operating nationally and a further 7 are being established through community development processes. This will bring the total number of Reconnect services to 100.

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Youth Bureau, Programs Branch, FaCS
Ph: 02 62129437
facs.internet@facs.gov.au

Website: www.facs.gov.au

Responsible Agency: Family and Community Services

**Youth Activities Services Program**

The Youth Activities Services Program consists of Youth Activities Services (YAS) and YAS Family Liaison Workers (FLW.)

The YAS provide activities, generally after school, to adolescents living in disadvantaged areas. The YAS program supports young people and their families through offering positive peer support and creative and challenging alternatives to activities that place young people at risk. The program helps to prevent young people from developing and continuing with patterns of behaviour that place them at risk of disconnecting from their families and community and which may have long term effects on their family relationships, schooling and labour force participation.

The FLW program supports young people and their families by helping them deal with issues affecting their well being as a family through offering positive practical support and guidance. The FLW fills an identified service gap between YAS and other intensive support and counselling services currently available.

Target Group: Young people aged 11-16 years living in disadvantaged areas, who still live at home and attend school. 19 YAS/FLW services identify Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people as their target group.

Coverage: There are 90 YAS and 83 FLWs across Australia.

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Youth Bureau, Programs Branch, FaCS
Ph: 02 62129437

Collaborative Youth Services Trials

The Collaborative Youth Services Trials focus on service delivery to disconnected young people or those at risk of becoming disconnected. The purpose is to test the processes by which local needs are identified and collaborative approaches to the provision of existing, or new, services can be developed to meet those needs effectively.

Target Group:

The target group is generally 12-25 years who are disconnected young people or those at risk of becoming disconnected. Individuals supported through these trials will be drawn from the following groups:

- Those with poor literacy/numeracy skills, learning difficulties or who have left school early;
- Indigenous Australians who are disconnected from education, training and employment opportunities;
- Those who are homeless;
- Those who are at-risk of becoming homeless;
- Those in contact with the juvenile justice system;
- Ex-offenders/those leaving detention;
- Refugees/recent migrants;
- Those in care (wards of the state/ex-wards/in foster care); and
- Those in rural/remote areas and who have limited education, training and employment opportunities.

Coverage: The localities involved are: * Cape York (Queensland); * Wide Bay/Burnett (Queensland); * Cootamundra/Young (New South Wales); * Playford (South Australia); and * Footscray (Victoria).


Contact details:

Assistant Secretary  
Youth Bureau, Programs Branch, FaCS  
Ph: 02 62129437  
facs.internet@facs.gov.au

Website: www.facs.gov.au

Innovative and Collaborative Youth Servicing Pilots (ICYS)

The ICYS Pilot Projects will promote more effective collaboration among service providers at the local community level and encourage greater ownership and accountability by communities for initiatives designed to assist young people. Projects will be required to test avenues of cooperation between and across Commonwealth/State/local government policies and programmes and community initiatives in order to deliver more effective services and improved outcomes for young people.

Target Group: Young people aged 12-25 are the target group for the pilots, although variation to the age range will be considered in response to local conditions.

Coverage: Around 25 pilots in a variety of urban, rural and remote locations will be funded across Australia.

Timeframe: Pilots are planned to commence in May/June 2002

Contact details:
Job Placement, Employment and Training Programme (JPET)

JPET provides a holistic approach to assisting young people overcome problems preventing them from maintaining stable accommodation and entering into full-time education, training or employment.

JPET offers ongoing support and referral services to young people to help them overcome a range of problems, including housing, substance abuse, family difficulties, sexual or other abuse, lack of self esteem, income support, and other barriers to employment, education or training.

The most common strategies implemented across all target groups were personal support, job search assistance and training assistance. Income advocacy and financial assistance were also common strategies;

Target Group: JPET assists students and unemployed young people between 15-21 years who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless (with priority to be given to those aged 15-19 and to homeless young people). Assistance is also provided to young people who are/or have been wards of the State, are refugees or have been in the juvenile justice system.

Coverage: 136 agencies are contracted to deliver services throughout Australia

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Youth Bureau, Programs Branch, FaCS
Ph: 02 62129437
Website: http://jpet.facs.gov.au

Responsible Agency: Family and Community Services

Personal Support Programme

The Personal Support Programme will provide funding to assist people who have multiple barriers to employment. The new programme will replace and expand the Community Support Programme (CSP) that is administered through the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations.

The Personal Support Programme will provide assistance to the most vulnerable job seekers, including people with barriers such as homelessness, drug and alcohol problems, psychological disorders and domestic violence problems.

Centrelink will refer people with significant non-vocational employment barriers to service providers funded under the programme. Service providers will provide them with assistance or link them to other government or community organisations that provide the sorts of help they need. By 2004-2005 the new programme will be assisting 45,000 people.

The new programme will help people to stabilise their circumstances and enable them to achieve outcomes that match their abilities and capacity. These will include social as well as economic outcomes. Participants will have up to two years of support and assistance in the Personal Support Programme.
For many participants, an appropriate outcome will be to transfer to Intensive Assistance to get help to find work. Others will undertake study or training or volunteer activities. For others with more severe barriers, the Personal Support Programme will help them to address their personal barriers (e.g., find stable accommodation, attend drug or alcohol or other counselling services) and increase their involvement in the community.

Target Group: People with non-vocational barriers to employment such as homelessness, drug and alcohol problems, psychological disorders and domestic violence problems.

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Participation Support Branch, FaCS
Ph: (02) 62448563
facs.internet@facs.gov.au


Responsible Agency: Family and Community Services

**Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP)**

SAAP is a joint Commonwealth and State/Territory program. 477 of its 1,238 services across Australia are tailored to supporting young people who are homeless or at risk of being homeless, providing transitional accommodation and/or related support services, aiming to achieve the maximum possible degree of self-reliance and independence. In 2000-01, approximately 37% of SAAP clients were aged 25 years and under. The most common reason given by young people (under 25) for seeking assistance was relationship/family breakdown. Children also enter SAAP services accompanying an adult.

Target Group: People who are homeless or at risk of being homeless

Coverage: 1,238 services across Australia, of which 477 tailored to supporting young people.

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Housing Support Branch, FaCS
Phone: 02 62129490
facs.internet@facs.gov.au


Responsible Agency: Family and Community Services

**Case management in SAAP**

Case management in SAAP is an approach to service delivery that respects the individual and ensures that their needs are recognised and met, by developing strategies to assist clients in achieving their goals. Case management is particularly appropriate for clients who have varied or complex needs across a range of services, such as health, housing, income, employment and education. Case management co-ordinates access to these services and enhances the quality of the client’s engagement with the range of services by ensuring that needs are being addressed holistically.
Australians Working Together

Australians Working Together - Helping people to move forward is a major package of initiatives offering significant support and services to help people to help themselves. Young job seekers will benefit from many Australians Working Together (AWT) initiatives announced in the 2001-02 Budget. Young people will also benefit from the improvements to employment services under AWT.

AWT builds on the Government's employment assistance and mutual obligation policies that have attracted widespread support amongst participants and the broader community.

The new system is providing improved personalised assessment and service, more opportunities for training and work experience, better incentives, and reasonable requirements for people to find work, increase their earnings or contribute to their communities.

Centrelink will be the gateway to the new system. Centrelink Personal Advisers will provide a high level of service to people needing additional help to overcome personal or other barriers.

Under AWT young people will have access to more places in Literacy and Numeracy Training, Job Search Training, and Work for the Dole and can earn Training Credits by participating in Work for the Dole and Community Work. Vulnerable and at risk young people will benefit from the better assessment processes in Intensive Assistance and the linkages between Intensive Assistance and other programmes. Young people will also benefit from other initiatives such as the Working Credit (which encourages people on income support to take up full-time, substantial part-time or casual work) and the new Personal Support Programme (designed to help people with problems such as homelessness, and drug and alcohol addiction) that replaces the Community Support Programme. Coverage: National

Timeframe: July 2001 - June 2005

Contact details: together@dewrsb.gov.au

Initiative Website address: http://www.together.gov.au/

Responsible Agency: Shared policy responsibility between Family and Community Services, Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, and Department of Education, Science and Training

Centrelink Community Officers and the Homebound Program

Centrelink has 33 Community Officers (CCO) who ensure that homeless and marginalised customers have equitable access to and maintenance of income support and services provided by Centrelink
The role of the Centrelink Community Officer (CCO) is to provide alternative services to homeless people who may not be able to access the mainstream services provided by Centrelink. This service is provided out of office in locations that are more convenient or where customers feel more comfortable.

CCO’s provide out servicing to customers in locations such as detoxification and rehabilitation centres, refuges, hostels for the homeless, psychiatric hospitals and drop in centres. Out servicing by CCO's provides community agencies with a reliable and effective means of ensuring that customers have access to appropriate income support.

Under the National Homeless Strategy, Centrelink is hosting "Homebound" - a two and a half day placement in Centrelink offices for homelessness service providers to improve the co-operative working relationship between those services and their local Customer Service Centre.

Target Group: Homeless

Contact details:
National Manager
Youth and Student Community Segment
Centrelink
Ph: 02 6244 6269

Website: www.centrelink.gov.au/

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible Agency: Family and Community Services and Centrelink

**Job Network - Intensive Assistance**

Intensive Assistance provides individually tailored assistance and support to get long term unemployed people, or those at risk of becoming long term unemployed, into jobs. Job Network members have the flexibility to decide with a young person the best form of assistance to get them a job or to assist them to return to education or take up training. This may include the provider using their fees to provide vocational training, language and literacy training or employer incentives such as a wage subsidy or workplace adjustments. Currently, services are provided for between 12 and 15 months depending on the level of job seeker disadvantage, with a provision to negotiate an extension of up to 6 months. From July 2002, under Australians Working Together (AWT), the period of Intensive Assistance will be up to twelve months for all job seekers except those who are referred to Intensive Assistance immediately following participation in the new Personal Support Programme. These job seekers will receive up to 18 months of Intensive Assistance.

Job Network members are contracted to provide services to all eligible job seekers including eligible young people (called a "generalist service"). Specialist Intensive Assistance services cater to the needs of a number of different groups. There are three specialist youth providers operating from 11 sites in NSW, Victoria, Queensland and Western Australia.

In general, the focus of Intensive Assistance and its regime of outcome payments is on getting job seekers into employment. However, in line with the government’s concern that young people should be encouraged to complete Year 12, Job Network members providing Intensive Assistance are eligible to claim a full outcome payment if they assist a young person 15 to 20 years of age who has not completed Year 12 or equivalent, to complete two semesters of an eligible education or training course. Under Australians Working Together, Intensive Assistance providers will have the flexibility to refer job seekers to beneficial complementary programmes before commencing Intensive Assistance eg, Work for the Dole, the new Personal Support Programme or to Literacy/Numeracy training. Young people form part of many...
Programme or to Literacy/Numeracy training. Young people form part of many
groups, such as parents, Indigenous Australians, people with disabilities and special
needs, who have been specifically targeted in AWT. Young people will have access to
the same resources as other members of these key target groups, including access
to Personal Advisers. Young people, like other unemployed people, will benefit from
employment services initiatives contained in Australians Working Together. From 1
July 2002, for example, they will have access to more places in Job Search Training,
and if eligible, Training Credits in Work for the Dole and community work.

Target Group: Long term unemployed people, or those at risk of becoming long term
unemployed.

Coverage: Intensive Assistance is offered from more than 1,100 sites nationally

Timeframe: Ongoing

Website: www.dewr.gov.au

Responsible Agency: Department of Employment and Workplace Relations

**Indigenous Employment**

The Indigenous Employment Policy (IEP) was introduced in 1999 in response to
concerns about the high indigenous unemployment rate and the particular
disadvantage experienced by Indigenous clients in the labour market. There are
three main elements to the Indigenous Employment Policy - the Indigenous
Employment Programme, the Indigenous Small Business Fund and assistance for
indigenous job seekers through Job Network. The Indigenous Employment
Programme has a number of elements including, the Corporate Leaders for
Indigenous Employment Project, the Structured Training and Employment Projects
(STEP), the National Indigenous Cadetship Project and Wage Assistance, that provide
flexible financial assistance to employers to assist in achieving sustainable
employment outcomes for Indigenous Australians. A particular focus of the policy is
to target jobs in the private sector. The IEP makes a positive contribution to getting
more Indigenous youth into jobs.

Currently, there are no specific participation targets for young Indigenous job
seekers in the IEP however, indigenous youth (under 24 years of age) accounted for
49% of placements made under indigenous employment programmes from 1 April
2001 to 30 March 2002. Given the particular demographic profile of Indigenous
Australians in which the median age is 19 years (compared to 35 for the total
Australian population) the Government is conscious of the emerging issue of
increasing demand for targeted employment assistance for indigenous youth.
Partnerships between the Departments of Employment and Workplace Relations and
Education, Science and Training are of being strengthened to further improve the
coordination and delivery of assistance to indigenous youth.

Under the Australians Working Together package, indigenous job seekers will get
more personalised help from Centrelink, Job Network Members, Community Work
Coordinators and other providers. The first Indigenous Employment Centres (IECs),
announced as part of Australians Working Together, have commenced operation and
more will commence from 1 July 2002. Under this initiative, Community
Development Employment Project (CDEP) organisations may be contracted to take
on the additional role of IECs, providing further help to indigenous people in areas
where job opportunities exist to obtain work. By 2004-05, IECs will have provided
job search support, work experience, access to accredited training, and ongoing
mentoring and support to up to 10,000 CDEP participants. By working with local
employers and Job Network members, the IECs will encourage people to find work
and help them retain it. This initiative, developed in consultation with ATSIC,
complements the successful IEP.

Many existing programmes are being expanded or changed to provide more
individual help. There will be greater support for job seekers to work or to take part
in their community or to develop business or training. They will keep more...
in their community or to do work experience or training. They will keep more income if they do casual or part-time work. Indigenous job seekers (including young job seekers) in Job Search Training and Intensive Assistance will be able to access a training account to gain work-related skills. Under AWT, there will be more practical ways to promote self-reliance for indigenous people.

Target Group: Indigenous job seekers
Coverage: National
Timeframe: Ongoing
Website: www.dewr.gov.au
Responsible Agency: Department of Employment and Workplace Relations

**Centrelink National Partnership Group for Young Job Seekers and At Risk Young People**

With similar terms of reference as the Partnership Group on Student Services this group comprises key national and state service providers/stakeholders who have a keen interest in young jobseekers and young people at risk, e.g. Mission Australia, Youth Action and Policy Association, St. Vincent de Paul, a JPET and Reconnect provider, as well as state government representatives.

Target Group: Service providers, researchers and youth
Coverage: National
Timeframe: Ongoing (bi-annual meetings)
Contact details:
National Manager
Youth and Student Community Segment
Centrelink
Ph: 02 6244 6269
Website: www.centrelink.gov.au/
Responsible Agency: Centrelink

**Centrelink/South Australia - Youth Connect**

In South Australia, Centrelink is working directly with the State welfare department, Family and Youth Services (FAYS), to provide a "joined up" State and Commonwealth service response to young people exiting secure accommodation by collocating Centrelink services in the FAYS office. This service is aimed at developing appropriate activity agreements with young people who are marginalized to minimise their disengagement with services and education, training and employment. This program is regarded as a trial for evaluation for possible implementation in other States to target assistance at our mutual customers.

Target Group: Youth
Coverage: Local
Timeframe: Ongoing
Contact details:
National Manager
Youth and Student Community Segment
Centrelink
Ph: 02 6244 6269
Website: www.centrelink.gov.au/
Responsibility Agency: Centrelink

National Illicit Drugs Strategy (NIDS) (also addresses Recommendations 17 and 20)

The purpose of NIDS is to assist in preventing and reducing the use of illicit substances through a balanced package of measures aimed at reducing the supply of, and demand for, illicit drugs. Key demand reduction initiatives under NIDS include:

### 1. National Illicit Drugs Campaign (NIDC)

**Purpose:** As a component of NIDS, NIDC is a comprehensive community education and information strategy, divided into two parts: 1) an information strategy to meet needs of parents, carers and the broader community, and 2) targeted strategies relating to reach youth. The first phase aims to enhance parents' and carers' skills in communicating with children about illicit drugs in order to deter the initiation or continuation of drug use by children.

**Target Group:** Parents, carers, the community (Part 1) and young people in general and those at risk of drug use (Part 2).

**Coverage:** National

**Timeframe:**

**Contact details:**
Director
Population Health Social Marketing
Department of Health and Ageing
[Email](mailto:nationaldrugscampaign@health.gov.au)

**Website:** [www.drugs.health.gov.au](http://www.drugs.health.gov.au)

### 2. Community Partnerships Initiative

**Purpose:** To encourage quality practice in community action to prevent illicit drug use and to build on existing activity occurring across Australia. It is expected that the outcomes will contribute to the prevention and reduction of illicit substance use by young people, by mobilising communities and fostering relationships between government and the broader community. The future emphasis of the program will be placed on community-driven prevention initiatives with the potential to generate improved individual, family and community resilience and well being, including reduced drug related risk and harm.

**Target Group:** The focus is young people but includes action involving other individuals and groups in the community who interact with young people in their social environments. Future focus will be on illicit drug specific prevention initiatives towards community activities directed at the early childhood and adolescent years that build resilience.

**Coverage:** National

**Timeframe:**

**Contact details:**
Assistant Secretary
Drug Strategy and Health Promotion Branch
Department of Health and Ageing
[Email](mailto:nationaldrugstrategy@health.gov.au)

**Website:** [www.nationaldrugstrategy.gov.au](http://www.nationaldrugstrategy.gov.au)
3. Schools Drug Education Strategy

Refer to entry under Department of Education, Science and Training.

4. NGO Treatment Grants Program

Funding has been provided under the Non-Government Organisation Treatment Grants Program to build capacity of NGO services and to improve treatment outcomes by a) expanding and upgrading current NGO treatment services, and b) establishing and operating new treatment services for users of illicit drugs, with an emphasis on filling gaps (geographic, target group) in the coverage of existing treatment services. In December 2001 the Minister for Health announced a funding allocation to continue the NGO Treatment Grants Program.

Target Group: Users of illicit drugs

Coverage:

Timeframe:

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Drug Strategy and Health Promotion Branch
Department of Health and Ageing
nationaldrugstrategy@health.gov.au

Website: www.nationaldrugstrategy.gov.au

Responsible Agency: Department of Health and Ageing
Stepping Forward - Sharing What Works

Recommendation 21

The taskforce recommends that:

- the Commonwealth work with State and Territory governments to develop partnership outreach education models focused on delivering relevant education and training to young people who are unable to participate in mainstream education. The key elements of this response are that:
  - education and training services are delivered in settings where young people gather and are comfortable;
  - local partnerships involving youth and community agencies, schools, training providers and local employers are essential;
  - education and training approaches are developed and delivered in consultation with young people; and
  - foundation and employability skills such as literacy, numeracy, information technology, effective communication, independent living, and civics are a primary focus.

Initiatives addressing Recommendation 21

Below is a compilation of initiatives, listed by State/Territory and Commonwealth, that contribute to building the foundations of support needed to promote the wellbeing, participation and identification of young people in vulnerable circumstances. In addition, you are encouraged to look at the current selection of Snapshots gathered for the State/Territory and Commonwealth initiatives targeting Recommendation 21.

Queensland

Education Queensland

- Alternative Schooling Provision
- Alternative Schooling Programs for Indigenous Youth

TAFE Queensland - Department of Employment and Training

- Student Links with Industry Project
- Northern Corridor Education Precinct
- Special Needs Program

Department of Employment and Training

- Community Training Partnerships
Get Set For Work
Community Employment Assistance Program
Community Jobs Plan
Public Sector Employment Program
Public Sector School-Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships Initiative
Youth for the Environment and Local Communities
Private Sector Employment Initiative
The Apprenticeship and Training System

Queensland Health

Indigenous Nursing Students Scholarships
Men’s Health Project – Strong in the City

Department of Housing

Community Renewal Program
Urban Renewal Program

Department of Corrective Services

Post Release Employment Assistance Service

Victoria

Victorian Qualifications Authority

Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL)

Department of Education and Training

VCE Initiative (Bendigo Senior Secondary College and WITS)

Northern Territory

Department of Employment, Education and Training

Aboriginal and Islander Tertiary Aspirations program (AITAP)
Partnerships and Communications
Learning Centres in Alice Springs
AITAP Extension (Proposed Initiative Name)
Partnership

South Australia

Department of Education, Training and Employment

active8 Premier’s Youth Challenge
Partnership and Outreach Education Models (POEMs)
Hallett Cove Youth Program
Options West Project
Tauondi
Western Youth Directions Program
TAFE programs for Indigenous Youth
Multicultural Youth Leadership Summits

Arts SA
• Young People, Crime Prevention and the Arts Initiative
  • Carclew Youth Arts Centre

Department of the Premier and Cabinet

• Multicultural Youth Leadership Summits

New South Wales

Department of Education and Training

• Business Youth Technology Education
  • TAFE Outreach

Tasmania

Department of Education

• Work Mentor Programme

Department of Education/Office of Post-Compulsory Education and Training

• E-Learn/E Magazine/Learnscope/E Degree
  • Partnership Conference
  • Skill Centres

Office of Post-Compulsory Education and Training

• Project Hahn
  • Certificate of Work Skills

Western Australia

Department of Education

• Senior Colleges and Senior Campuses
  • Competitively Allocated Training (CAT)
  • The New Apprenticeships Access Programme (NAAP)

Australian Capital Territory

ACT Department of Education and Community Services

• Youth Education Program (YEP)

ACT Department of Education and Community Services Family Services and Galilee Incorporated

• Galilee

ACT Department of Education and Community Services

• Young Carers’ Package

Commonwealth
Department of Education, Science and Training

- Partnership Outreach Education Model
- National Indigenous English Literacy and Numeracy Strategy (NIELNS)
- ECEF - WADU Indigenous Youth Partnerships Initiatives
- Australians Working Together - Indigenous Education and Training
- Australians Working Together - Working Together for Indigenous Youth
- Woolaning School
- Commonwealth Development and Employment Projects (CDEP) Scheme – Language, Literacy and Numeracy Programme

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The successful development of Skill Centre in rural communities throughout Tasmania has provided the opportunity for students to continue their education in their local environment. Vocational Education and Training enrolments in rural areas total around 600 students, a vast improvement from the pre skill centre program.

The Principal, Mr Warren Pill, shares his success story.

From a first year enrolment of 34 students in 2001, Vocational Education and Training (VET) enrolments at Port Dalrymple Skill Centre at George Town this year reached 73 in early March. The school was somewhat overwhelmed with the response, especially given that we didn’t advertise as such apart from a letter drop in mid November last year. Most of those enrolled are adults, the vast majority being women. Of those who enrolled, many attended school here, although the changes, which resulted from the merger of two schools to become Port Dalrymple School, have made the place barely recognizable, in the eyes of VET students. There are sisters, parents and children (children in upper teens) and cousins attending. Some of these locals and newer arrivals were looking for a re-entry to study, including many who did not complete secondary schooling. Others were clearly focused on a Vocational qualification from the start. The surprising aspect for staff is the social atmosphere and the cooperative learning culture, which has emerged, barely needing to be fostered by staff. This is all helped by the two-room Skill centre completed in October 2001, having been funded on the strength of enrolment projections. The school achieved RTO status in December 2001, as a result of the tireless work of VET Coordinator, Brett Wilkin.

Clearly VET Rural is here to stay in George Town.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 21.
**'YEP' Youth Education Program - ACT and Commonwealth**

The Youth Education Program (YEP) operates out of a youth centre, [Youth in the City](#), located in the heart of Canberra. Anglicare, one of the largest non-government service providers in the ACT, manages Youth in the City.

YEP is unique in its approach to addressing the psychosocial needs of young people (aged 12-21). Youth in the City operates a number of services including an internet café, which was funded by FaCS. The internet café integrates the work of the Youth Education Program and services the needs of many at risk ACT students not attending school. The internet café operates as a drop-in centre where young people receive referral and advocacy support for their at risk issues.

The Youth Education Program has two full time teachers funded by the Department of Education and Community Services and students are able to study NSW TAFE Year 12 courses online. Students are also able to access youth worker support, community development support and family support to complement their school study.

The Youth Education Program has been successful in receiving POEMS funding from the Commonwealth Department of Education, Science and Training and intends to extend the intake of people in the program from 12 to 24 students. The Youth Education Program also receives a significant level of sponsorship from a local Anglican school, which has assisted in resourcing and training of staff.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to [Initiatives targeting Recommendation 21](#).

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**Maleny Flexi-School - Qld**

Alternative Schooling Provision - Qld

Since 1999 the Maleny Flexi School has been working with alienated young people who express their dissatisfaction by leaving school or by displaying inappropriate behaviour within the traditional school system.

The Flexi School has the support of Education Queensland which provides a teacher for the school as well as access to Maleny State High School facilities and resources. The school also relies on services and resources provided by the community.

The school offers a variety of education program options. Students can opt to do subjects through
distance education, link to the high school, complete programs developed at the Flexi school or develop independent projects. There is also the Three-Up School-in-Work Program involving a young person, a mentor and a workplace host enabling young people to develop vocational education knowledge and skills in the workplace.

The school plays a vital role in assisting some young people to complete their secondary schooling, become self motivated, self directed learners and helping them to develop the self confidence and skills required to make a more effective contribution to the community.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 21.

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**The Twilight School - SA**

The Twilight School was started in 2001 to reconnect students who have disengaged from schooling. For every 10-20 students there are 2 teachers from the mainstream school, this unique crossover of teachers provides continuity to students who return to mainstream education. A unique model of youthwork is being trialed to support the young people. The model is intensive and engages with all the students in a "normal" way so that a firm relationship and trust can be built prior to any formal intervention occurring.

The program seeks to support students in gaining employment or work experience and needs based teaching, using an adult learning culture. The weekly roster includes work education unit & modules, graphic design and art, PE and community studies, and mathematics and English focus.

The students attending the Twilight school come from a range of backgrounds, including chaotic families, are homeless, some have been serious drug users, most have been excluded or expelled from other schools and most have specific learning difficulties. Students are responding well to the flexibility, respect, attention and understanding provided at the school. Of the 29 students who started first term this year 22 either went to TAFE or back to school.

The youth worker's role is to work with the young person concerning their issues so that they become more able to continue to attend the program. This model is an intensive support model which seeks to locate the youth worker in the same space as the young people so that the relationship is more "normal". The youth worker is involved in the classroom and engages with the young people whilst they are also undertaking their schoolwork. By getting to know the youth worker as just another person who assists in the classroom, the young people are much more comfortable to talk with her about their issues than if she worked in the more traditional appointment-based model which most schools use.
This method of engagement creates the trust for the young person to then be able to take the risks necessary to tackle whatever issues s/he is concerned about. The youth worker then undertakes the usual range of interventions including meeting with parents, mediating where there is conflict, helping the young person seek help for alcohol or drug issues, assisting in finding accommodation, providing assistance with relationship issues and sexual health, and most importantly, advocating for young people so that they can receive the services and/or support they are entitled to from the community or other agencies.

Following, is a fairly typical example of some of outcomes being achieved. A 16 year old boy's father died four years ago, just as he was about to start high school. The young person had serious adjustment issues and rebelled at school, finally being excluded because of drug use. During the 18 months period when he wasn't at school he was involved in the drug and offending sub-culture and became homeless. He has returned to school through the Twilight school, has reconnected with his mother and has started helping around the house and taking an interest in his family life again. He is good with his hands and would like to be a motor mechanic or carpentry apprenticeship. Through the Twilight School he has done a TAFE course which has helped set him on the employment pathway he would like to take.

The program is still in the developmental stages and extensive research is required to make the model into a workable option in other DETE regions. Anecdotal information is very encouraging that this type of schooling option is appropriate for young people who have experienced significant disengagement from education.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 21.

Online Learning Opportunities - Tas

The RURAL VET Network staff and district officers embraced the opportunity to be part of a Learn scope Project in 2000. The initial enthusiasm continues with a number of Rural VET teachers developing innovative and quality VET in schools programs.

Lesley Richardson from Campbell Town Skill Centre, has developed the Community Services, Aged Care Certificate 11 and 111 and is highly recognized for her outstanding work. Lesley delivers her program to 15 online students based primarily in rural and remote location. Many of her students are mature aged women who catch to bus to their local school with their children to commence their day at school. The often isolated women have welcomed the opportunity to reconnect with learning and engage with
technological era. In 2001 around 70% of her students have gained employment in the aged care area.

Steve Harrison, from Dover District High School was recently awarded an Australia Teachers Prize for Excellence for his practical enterprise projects. Steve is particularly well known for delivering VET Aquaculture online - difficult to imagine but his interactive site certainly engages all students.

Brad an online learner from Burnie, some 6 hours from Dover, recently relocated to Dover to take up employment with Huon Aquaculture Company. Lauren from the rural community of Deloraine, completed Certificate 1 in 2001 and has moved to Dover to continue her studies in Aquaculture.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 21.

Sole Vision - Qld
Community Employment Assistance Program - Qld

Sole Vision is designed for disadvantaged young women in the Logan community. The program addresses the needs of these young women in a holistic manner - it not only addresses the specific problems associated with unemployment but also personal and health issues.

The program covers a range of occupations and industries to increase employment opportunities and offset the impact of generational unemployment. It places a strong emphasis on job search activities, referral to employment and intensive work placement support.

The project is a twenty week structured vocational program followed by thirteen weeks of mentoring to address fundamental problems impacting on the young person's behaviour and motivation. Participants are supervised by a qualified trainer and youth worker and have access to drug and alcohol counsellors and psychologists. Each young person's progress is discussed at weekly casework meetings.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 21.
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 21

Queensland

**Alternative Schooling Provision**

To support students at risk, a trial of alternative schooling provision at five Education Queensland sites commenced in Term 2, 2000.

In the trial, the focus is on identifying and supporting students at greatest risk of not completing schooling and developing alternative education programs and settings for students who have difficulty with conventional school and disciplinary structures. The trial provides both short and long term education programs for students aged 10 to 15 years.

Each of the trial sites is an annexe of a designated school and is managed and supported by the local cluster of schools.

Target group: Young people aged 10-15 years at greatest risk of not completing schooling.

Coverage: Nominated schools which include five sites at Cairns, Capalaba, Deception Bay, Silkstone and Woodridge

Timeframe: Ongoing: subject to review. The alternative schooling provision commenced in Term 2, 2000. The current review by Griffith University will inform future planning and development of the program.

Responsible agency: Education Queensland

Contact: Managers
   Inclusive Learning Unit
   Ph: (07) 3237 0793 / (07) 3235 4213

Website: [www.education.qld.gov.au](http://www.education.qld.gov.au)

**Alternative Schooling Programs for Indigenous Youth**

During 2000/2001, Education Queensland established five (5) pilot Alternative Schooling programs to better meet the needs of students at educational risk. Additional school-community based programs were developed to meet local needs.

For example, Edmund Rice Family in partnership with Murgon State High School developed a ‘Future Options’ program to target Indigenous youth disconnected from mainstream schooling services. This program adopted an interagency approach with justice and community youth organisations to support this cohort in an ‘off-campus’ approach.

Education Queensland has also supported the Mitchell Outstation Project aimed at supporting Indigenous youth at risk of suspension/exclusion in the South West Queensland region.

Common elements to the ‘Future Options’, Mitchell Outstation and other similar localised programs include Literacy and Numeracy, Cultural Studies and Lifeskills,
which included personal development and vocational skills. Program input from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people was also seen as a critical factor. It is envisaged that other schools will adopt alternative education/schooling programs based on the successful practices of these initiatives.

During 2001, Education Queensland conducted an extensive review of alternative schooling programs with a view to informing future directions. Additional activities will be developed over 2001-2004 under the National Indigenous English Literacy and Numeracy Strategy. This initiative includes elements of professional development and training of alternative schooling personnel, VET modules, community involvement and staffing. It includes both alternative schooling sites as well as the two Youth Detention Centres in Townsville and Brisbane.

Target group: Indigenous Youth at Risk

Coverage: State wide with five specific sites and localised activities

Timeframe: Ongoing 2001/2002

Responsible agency: Education Queensland

Contact: Indigenous Education Programs
        Ph: (07) 3237 0808

Website: http://education.qld.gov.au/tal/atsi

Students Link with Industry Project

The Students Link with Industry Project involves Indigenous high school students from Years 9 and 10 attending TAFE or work placement one day a week throughout the year. During this time the students undertake a Certificate I in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Educational and Vocational Access. This project has provided the opportunity for young Indigenous high school students to access more vocational training and work placement than would normally occur and addresses the lower retention rates of Indigenous students at school, a problem recognised by the community and supported by national statistics.

Target group: Indigenous high school students

Coverage: Mackay region

Timeframe: 2000-2001

Responsible agency: TAFE Queensland, Department of Employment and Training, Education Queensland, Mackay Region School Industry Links Scheme

Contact: Project Officer
        Indigenous South Sea Islander Unit
        Ph: (07) 4940 3393

Website: www.tafe.net/info/

Northern Corridor Education Precinct

The Northern Corridor Education Precinct aims to strengthen linkages between industry and agencies delivering education and training services to youth. Transition officers work with all education sectors, youth and community agencies to develop cross sectoral links to assist the transition from school to further training and education or work.

Target group: Education staff, youth and community workers, industry.

Coverage: Brisbane North
Timeframe: 2002

Responsible agency: TAFE Queensland, Department of Employment and Training

Contact: Transition Officer
        Ph: (07) 3258 5113 / (07) 3258 5057
        Northpoint Institute of TAFE
        147 Norris Road, Bracken Ridge Q 4017

Website: www.tafe.net/info/

**Special Needs Program**

The Special Needs Program is an extension of the Youth at Risk Program offering students at risk of leaving school and more specifically, students with special needs the assistance to enter vocational education and training programs in Woodwork and Horticulture.

Target group: School students with special needs aged 15-17 years.

Coverage: 27 schools within the Ipswich region.

Timeframe: 2001

Responsible agency: Education Queensland and TAFE Queensland, Department of Employment and Training

Contact: Coordinator, Construction Tea,
        Bremer Institute of TAFE
        Ph: (07) 3817 3040

Website: www.tafe.net/info/

**Community Training Partnerships**
(also addresses rec. 21)

Aims to address key local/regional employment opportunities or issues that require skills development that cannot be adequately or readily addressed through other programs and avenues. A key goal of the program is to maximise the employment opportunities for the local workforce, particularly for those persons who are disadvantaged in the labour market and otherwise unable to access necessary training. Training needs to be tailored in recognition of the needs of participants – and focused on the identified local and regional employment opportunities.

Target group: Unemployed and under employed.

Coverage: 11 pilots and 70 projects throughout Queensland. It is anticipated that of the 5,133 participants who will be assisted through these projects, 1,165 will be in the 15-24 age group.


Responsible agency: Department of Employment and Training

Contact: Manager Community Training Partnerships
        Ph: (07) 3006 4165

Website: www.employment.qld.gov.au

**Get Set For Work**
(also addresses recs 19, 20 and 22)

Intensive training and employment assistance and a wage subsidy for project participants who gain employment.
Target group: Unemployed early school leavers aged 15-24 years communities of high youth unemployment.

Coverage: 35 projects worth $2.94 million have been approved assisting 952 participants. 89 youths have already gained employment. Activity is limited to 15 areas across the State identified as experiencing high levels of youth unemployment.

Timeframe: The program is funded from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002.

Responsible agency: Department of Employment and Training

Contact: Manager Community Employment Programs
Ph: (07) 3225 2113

Website: www.employment.qld.gov.au

Community Employment Assistance Program
(also addresses recs. 19, 20 and 22)

Community organisations are funded to provide intensive employment and training assistance including post placement support/mentoring.

Target Group: Long-term unemployed and those at risk of being long term unemployed.

Coverage: State wide. Grants totalling $19 million were approved for 352 projects throughout Queensland for organisations to assist 15,507 long-term unemployed people gain better skills and more job opportunities with 5,826 gaining jobs. 40% of those assisted were youth and 37% who gained employment were youth.

Timeframe: The program is funded over six financial years to 30 June 2004.

Responsible Agency: Department of Employment and Training

Contact: Manager Community Employment Programs
Ph: (07) 3225 2113

Website: www.employment.qld.gov.au

Community Jobs Plan
(also addresses rec. 22)

Provides opportunities for work on a range of public works, community and environmental projects of benefit to the broader community with an emphasis on participants gaining training, competencies and work skills in activities that will lead to employment opportunities relevant to local labour market demands.

Target group: Long-term unemployed and those at risk of being long term unemployed.

Coverage: 539 projects throughout Queensland with grant funding of $76.3 million to employ 6,618 long-term unemployed people. Youth employment accounts for 46% or 3,045 jobs.

Timeframe: The program is funded over six financial years to 30 June 2004.

Responsible Agency: Department of Employment and Training

Contact: Manager Community Employment Programs
Ph: (07) 3225 2113

Website: www.employment.qld.gov.au

Public Sector Employment Program
(also addresses recs 22 and 23)
Aims to increase the number of additional apprenticeships and traineeships in public sector. It focuses on employing additional apprentices and additional trainees in public sector agencies including state government departments, local government, state statutory authorities and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Councils. This program has a high youth participation rate with approximately 70% of participants being aged between 15 and 24 years. Approximately 69% of participants have found employment or further education and training at the conclusion of this program.

Target group: All job seekers are encouraged to apply and the following targets exist:

- Women – 50 per cent
- People from a Non-English Speaking Background – 5 per cent
- People with a Disability – 5 per cent
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People – 5 per cent

Coverage: The program is available across the State with approximately 62% of places filled outside the south east corner.

Timeframe: The program commenced in October 1998 and aims to generate 13,400 additional trainees and 500 additional apprentices in public sector agencies over six financial years.

Responsible Agency: Department of Employment and Training.

Contact: Manager Employment Support Programs
Ph: (07) 3406 2093

Website: www.employment.qld.gov.au

Public Sector School-Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships Initiative (also addresses rec. 22)

Public sector school based traineeships and apprenticeships have been available since 1 July 2001. The program supports the transition from school to work by allowing students (typically years 11 and 12) to achieve a senior certificate while they train in an industry area to achieve nationally recognised VET qualifications.

Public sector agencies receive up to $4,000 for each school based placement and the trainees and apprentices are required to work for the department for at least 96 days over the two-year period.

Initially the program was only available to State Government departments but was recently expanded to include local government agencies, state statutory authorities and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community councils. This is expected to increase the geographical spread of school based opportunities, diversify the traineeship and apprenticeship models available and provide additional employment based learning opportunities for disadvantaged young people, including Indigenous youth in remote locations.

Target group: Students (typically years 11 and 12) are encouraged to apply.

Coverage: The program is available across the State. The recent extension of the program to all public sector agencies is expected to increase the geographical spread of school based apprentices and trainees.

Timeframe: The program commenced in July 2001 and funding is available over a three-year period.

Responsible Agency: Department of Employment and Training

Contact: Manager Employment Support Programs
Ph: (07) 3406 2093
**Youth for the Environment and Local Communities**  
(also addresses recs. 22 and 23)

Aims to create 1,200 additional traineehips in the areas of environmental protection, horticulture and waste management and targets young people aged between 15-24.

Agencies eligible for funding include local government agencies, state government departments, state statutory authorities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community councils and not-for profit community organisations.

Target group: The program targets youth aged between 15-24 years of age and the following targets exist:

- Women – 50 per cent
- People from a Non-English Speaking Background – 5 per cent
- People with a Disability – 5 per cent
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People – 5 per cent

Coverage: The Initiative is available across the State.

Timeframe: The program commenced in July 2001 and funding is available over a two-year period.

Responsible Agency: Department of Employment and Training

Contact: Manager Employment Support Programs  
Ph: (07) 3406 2093

Website: [www.employment.qld.gov.au](http://www.employment.qld.gov.au)

**Private Sector Employment Initiative**  
(also addresses recs. 22 and 23)

To address Queensland’s current and emerging skill shortages by facilitating the engagement of additional apprentices and trainees in the private sector thereby reducing the unemployment level and ensuring Queensland’s future skills requirements will be met.

Target group: Private sector employers and group training organisations which employ apprentices and trainees in identified skill shortage areas/occupations and meet the relevant criteria.

Coverage: 86% of additional apprentices and trainees employed across the State between October 1998 and 31 March 2002 have been young people under the age of 25 years.

Timeframe: The program is funded over six financial years to 30 June 2004.

Responsible Agency: Department of Employment and Training.

Contact: Manager Employment Support Programs  
Ph: (07) 3406 2093

Website: [www.employment.qld.gov.au](http://www.employment.qld.gov.au)

**The Apprenticeship and Training System**

Apprenticeships and traineeships do not specifically target young people who are not participating in mainstream education, however they do represent a significant employment and training destination for young people in general. As an employment based means of acquiring a qualification they can provide an integrated model of
skills development, which features complementary, yet distinct roles performed by employers and registered training organisations. Apprenticeships and traineeships can also be undertaken whilst a young person is undertaking their schooling and this can be in recognition of the individual’s needs to develop skills not otherwise achievable through mainstream education options.

Young people with specific learning or development needs, attract further support while undertaking their apprenticeship or traineeship.

Target group: Non specific, though predominantly young people.

Coverage: Queensland

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Employment and Training

Contact: Director, Training Operations
Ph: (07) 3237 1898

Website: http://www.training.qld.gov.au/

**Indigenous Nursing Scholarship Program**

Five nursing scholarships are offered to first year Indigenous nursing students.

Target group: First year Indigenous nursing students.

Coverage: Five positions statewide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Queensland Health

Contact: Project Officer
Office of Rural Health
Queensland Health
Ph (07) 4622 5256


**Men’s Health Project Strong in the City**

Aims to improve the health and well-being of Indigenous people, with a specific emphasis on men and families, by defining and enhancing social capital, and through building sustainable health promotion capacity.

The Strong in the City project takes an innovative approach to health and health promotion, in recognising the important role of our communities in improving health outcomes. That is, studies have shown that people tend to have better health outcomes and a better sense of well being when they have a greater sense of belonging, value and trust in their communities.

This project aims to find out how this works for Murri and Islander people in an urban setting and will be achieved by conducting interviews, discussions and photovoice with Indigenous community members.

This information will then be used to better inform individuals working within Indigenous communities; promote positive Indigenous images amongst the wider community; and will also direct the next phase of the project. The second phase of the project involves responding to the research findings by working collaboratively with local community groups, workers and organisations to help support them in development and delivery of such initiatives.

Target group: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples ages 13 onwards, living...
Target group: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples ages 13 onwards, living in and around Brisbane (for example Inala, Ipswich, Logan, etc).

Coverage: Brisbane City

Timeframe: 2001/2003

Responsible agency: Queensland Health and University of Queensland

Contact: Project Officer
University of Queensland
Ph (07) 3346 4619

Website: www.health.qld.gov.au

**Community Renewal Program**

Creation and Development of Youth Space in the Logan area – this project funds the establishment of a youth space in a local child care facility. It targets young people (12-16 years) and provides a venue for a variety of appropriate and ongoing recreational and team building activities.

Eagleby Youth Activity Space – this initiative will establish a comprehensive purpose built complex that will be utilised by young people for a range of social, cultural, recreational, educational and support services. It will also encourage the partnership of local youth, community and government to establish the space and develop the activities.

Target group: Young people

Coverage: A number of community renewal communities.

Timeframe: Various

Responsible agency: Department of Housing

Contact: Senior Project Officer
Ph: (07) 3225 2545

Website: www.public-housing.qld.gov.au

**Urban Renewal Program**

The Department of Housing, through its Urban Renewal Program is active in ten areas of high disadvantage. These areas are characterised by a high proportion of public housing, which are in various stages of deterioration, a declining social infrastructure, a high level of employment and a lack of employment opportunities.

The Urban Renewal projects, through Capital funding, provides opportunities for the locally unemployed who are at risk or have been involved in socially unacceptable behaviour.

This opportunity is provided with the Department’s involvement in community based organisations such as Challenge Employment and Training and Boystown Linkup.

These organisations tender for works such as fencing, landscaping, shed construction, house demolition and concreting etc.

Target group: 15-25 year olds affected by childhood abuse, substance abuse, homelessness, crime, domestic violence, poverty, long term unemployment, lack or loss of family support etc

Coverage: Logan Corridor, Inala/Ipswich Corridor, Deception Bay and Manoora in Cairns.

Timeframe: Ongoing
Post Release Employment Assistance Service

The Post Release Employment Assistance Service is a program to assist recently released prisoners to gain and retain employment. The program was piloted in both the Townsville region and South East Queensland. Of the 955 program participants, 107 were Indigenous, 94 of whom were registered in the Townsville program. Twenty-two Indigenous participants were placed into employment from the Townsville program.

Target group: Offenders including youth.

Coverage: Queensland

Timeframe: Pilot commenced in July 2000

Responsible agency: Department of Corrective Services

Contact: Adviser Workplace Practices
     Ph: (07) 3405 6292

Website: www.dcs.qld.gov.au
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 21

Victoria

**Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL)**

This Certificate will provide a complementary range of post compulsory options for young people whose needs are not being adequately met by current options in post compulsory education and training. The new qualification will be accredited by the Victorian Qualifications Authority (VQA).

Target group: As a new qualification alongside the VCE, VCAL offers another pathway to all post compulsory students, with a special emphasis on applied learning.

Coverage: In 2002, trials will be conducted in up to nine regional locations across the State, involving fifteen government and five non-government schools and two TAFE Institutes. An array of other organisations are participating in various VCAL partnerships associated with the trial sites, including Adult, Community and Further Education (ACFE) providers, local employers and community groups, and the Local Learning and Employment Networks (LLENs).

Timeframe: Following the trial in 2002 and pending a successful evaluation, to be offered widely across Victorian government and non-government schools in 2003.

Responsible Agency: Victorian Qualifications Authority

Website: [www.vqa.vic.gov.au](http://www.vqa.vic.gov.au)

**VCE Initiative (Bendigo Senior Secondary College and WITS)**

This initiative is developing an alternative learning model to provide a flexible learning environment, a non-traditional on-line alternative to school based delivery of the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE).

Target group: Students aged 15-19 years (mainly Year 10-12)

Coverage: Bendigo Senior Secondary College

Timeframe: 2001-2003

Responsible Agency: Department of Education and Training

Website: [www.det.vic.gov.au](http://www.det.vic.gov.au)
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 21

Northern Territory

Aboriginal and Islander Tertiary Aspiration Program (AITAP) - (Proposed Initiative Name)

The Aboriginal and Islander Tertiary Aspiration Program (AITAP) is a school and community based support program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students who hope to complete Year 12 studies and enter higher education courses. It encourages, supports and assists them during their secondary school years to improve their academic attainment and achieve their career aspirations.

Target group: Indigenous students in urban secondary schools

Coverage: Urban secondary schools in the NT

Timeframe: 2001 - 2004

Responsible agency: Department of Employment, Education and Training

Website: www.education.nt.gov.au

Partnerships and Communications

The Partnership initiative focuses on strategies to engage schools and communities in the implementation of the Department of Employment, Education and Training (DEET) Indigenous Education Strategic Plan, Element 6 - Indigenous parents and communities share responsibility with government for educational outcomes. Within this program the Partnerships and Communications Unit is responsible for providing feedback to parents, Indigenous communities, other government departments and DEET. Feedback could include promoting best practice models, encouraging student attendance and fostering community involvement in decision making. This initiative endeavours to engage Indigenous people in the development and implementation of strategies to improve employment, education and training opportunities.

Target group: Whole Community

Coverage: Territory wide

Timeframe: 2002 - 2004

Responsible agency: Department Employment, Education and Training

Website: www.education.nt.gov.au

Learning Centres in Alice Springs

Five learning centres have been established in Alice Springs to provide educational opportunities for students who have disengaged or are at risk of disengaging with mainstream schooling. These learning centres provide a more flexible organisational and social culture to that of mainstream schooling and are located where young people feel comfortable about learning. Each learning centre is an outpost of a government school and provides access to mainstream educational outcomes but in an alternative setting.
The focus of these programs is to 'detour' young people 'at risk' back into mainstream programs or into employment. While the focus of the program is on achieving educational outcomes there is a recognition that the basic needs of young people must be met to enable them to focus on learning. Therefore there is a strong social and life skills development focus which is generally achieved through partnerships or linking with other agencies.

Target group: Young people in Alice Springs who have left school early or are at risk of leaving school early.

Coverage: Alice Springs

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Employment, Education and Training.

Website: www.education.nt.gov.au

**AITAP Extension**

Extension of The Aboriginal and Islander Tertiary Aspiration Program (AITAP) to include Indigenous secondary students attending remote community schools and Indigenous students in urban secondary schools aged 12 years and upwards.

The program will focus on student progression to tertiary education and employment; transition from primary to secondary schooling; retention of students through to Year 12; personal development for 'at risk' Indigenous students such as building sound study skills.

Target group: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students

Coverage: Urban high schools and remote community schools

Timeframe: 2002 - 2004

Responsible agency: Department of Employment, Education and Training

Website: www.education.nt.gov.au

**Partnerships**

1. **Local Education Advisory Boards (LEABS)**

LEABs will be established in communities to support the full engagement of Indigenous people in improving educational outcomes of Indigenous students in the Northern Territory. Four pilot communities will be selected in 2002.

The aim of the pilots will be to establish educational advisory boards with appropriate community leadership. The pilots could be established in community schools or cluster schools within linguistically and culturally affiliated regions.

LEAB's, with departmental support, will develop community education plans to aid in the implementation of the Department of Employment, Education and Training Indigenous Education 5-Year Strategic Plan, NIELNS and IESIP Agreements.

2. **Self Managed Schools**

Provision to be made for community control over education decision-making processes, while establishing clear benchmarks for expected improvements.

It is envisioned that the Local Education Advisory Board will be the management group for a self managed school.

This initiative seeks to achieve:
Local responsibility for the maintenance and development of community well being and human resources
Community capacity to embrace educational and social change
Efficient and effective consultation and reporting processes
Flexible and creative community direction to the school principal for delivery and resourcing of school programs.

3. Ongoing partnership development

Partnerships will foster collaboration from all stakeholders in achieving common goals in education. They will seek to improve Indigenous student outcomes through:

- Engagement and involvement of key local leaders in the development and maintenance of the partnerships
- Building relationships and linkages between relevant stakeholders, activities and programs at the local and regional level.
- Collaborative utilisation of human, material and financial resources.
- Encouragement and support of improved communication through networking between key stakeholders at the community and regional level
- Harnessing expertise, building knowledge, and encouraging and assisting relevant data gathering and research
- Activities such as collaborative planning and development, consultation, two way communication and the gathering of information integral to the successful implementation of the local and regional plans.
- Sharing information and ideas (networking) between organisations and communities across the NT
- Organisational and community based workshops and services aimed at supporting the development and implementation of the strategic plans
- Contact with Commonwealth and Territory officers to foster shared knowledge of government processes and identify and create linkages with broad organisational and community processes.

Target group: Whole Community
Coverage: Territory Wide
Timeframe: 2002 - 2004
Responsible agency: Department Employment, Education and Training.
Website: www.education.nt.gov.au
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 21

South Australia

active8 Premier's Youth Challenge

active8 provides training and community participation opportunities for young South Australians through partnerships between schools, community, youth organisations and young people.

active8 promotes in young people leadership, team work, community service, individual responsibility, self-reliance and confidence, skills development, respect for others and communication skills.

Twenty service providers work in partnership with host organisations to deliver the program in places as geographically diverse as Allendale East, Keith Loxton, Streaky Bay and Coober Pedy. The broad range of service providers includes: Air Force Cadets, Air Youth, Army and Navy Cadet Corps, Carclew Youth Arts Centre, Conservation Volunteers Australia, Country Fire Service, Police, Red Cross, Royal Life Saving, Surf Life Saving, Scouts and Guides, State Emergency Service and St John Ambulance.

The active8 Premier's Youth Challenge is an initiative in which the partnerships between government, the community sector and the private sector provide significant benefits for the young people of South Australia.

Target group: 15-19 year olds not engaged in formal education and year 8-12 students in government and non-government schools

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Dec 2003

Responsible agency: DETE-Office of Employment and Youth

Website: www.dete.sa.gov.au

Partnership and Outreach Education Models (POEMs)

Regional networks will ensure broad cross sectoral partnerships involving the education, community and business sectors are instrumental in building education and training pathways for young people unable to participate in mainstream education.

POEMS will be developed where:

- Education and training services are delivered in settings where young people gather and are comfortable
- Local partnerships involving youth and community agencies, schools, training providers and local employers are essential
- Education and training approaches are developed and delivered in consultation with young people
- Foundation and employability skills are a primary focus
Young people at risk or disconnected have:

- opportunities to develop their understanding of work culture.
- Vocation experiences in supportive and well supervised work settings
- Opportunities to participate in SWL, obtain employability competence in IT use.

Target group: Young people who are disconnected from mainstream education and training

Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: 2002-2003
Responsible agency: DETE - Enterprise and Voc. Ed.
Website: www.dete.sa.gov.au

**Hallett Cove Youth Program**

Life skills, VET and SACE modules designed to meet individual student needs for disconnected young people. Delivered by the Hallett Cove Youth Service in partnership with the Southern Vocational College and Onkaparinga TAFE

Target group: Disconnected young people
Coverage: Marion Council, Hallett Cove - across Adelaide
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible agency: DETE-Metro Schools and Children's Services
Website: www.dete.sa.gov.au

**Options West Project** (Oborne House, Oceanview High School)

Learning programs, for young people who have dropped out of school, where students work (within the SACE) through an individually tailored course at their own pace, sometimes combining part-time work with their studies. In partnership with Douglas Mawson Institute of TAFE.

Target group: Disconnected young people
Coverage: Taperoo, Port Adelaide
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible agency: DETE-Metro Schools and Children's Services
Website: www.dete.sa.gov.au

**Paralowie House**

Several agencies (including DHS) co-located and providing integrated services (accommodation, integrated youth services and senior secondary studies (including VET accreditation) program of learning within the SACE) to young people at risk in the Northern region.

Target group: Disconnected young people
Coverage: Salisbury, Northern Adelaide
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible agency: DETE-Metro Schools and Children’s Services and DHS
Website: www.dete.sa.gov.au
**Tauondi**

Vocational education and training for indigenous people in a range of priority training areas

Target group: Indigenous Australians

Coverage: Primarily Adelaide metro area

Timeframe: 2001-2002

Responsible agency: DETE-Office of VET

Website: [www.dete.sa.gov.au](http://www.dete.sa.gov.au)

**Western Youth Directions Program**

Learning program for 15-18 year olds, not at school or in training or employment, to gain additional skills and qualifications that will enhance their further options. The program is within the SACE, has vocational learning and VET components.

Target group: Disconnected young people

Coverage: Croydon - the Parks - Western Adelaide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: DETE-Metro Schools and Children’s Services

Website: [www.dete.sa.gov.au](http://www.dete.sa.gov.au)

**TAFE Programs for Indigenous Youth**

Accredited programs delivered for Indigenous young people in areas of high demand for Indigenous communities.

Target group: Early school leavers and young CDEP participants.

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Up to 3 years

Responsible agency: DETE-Office of VET

Website: [www.dete.sa.gov.au](http://www.dete.sa.gov.au)

**Young People, Crime Prevention and the Arts Initiative**

Arts SA in partnership with the Office of Crime Prevention (Justice Portfolio) is developing a joint initiative targeting young people "at risk", using arts activity (eg drama, contemporary music, or visual art) as the medium. The objective is to offer high quality opportunities for young people to explore and express their creativity and their aspirations, provide pathways to employment and other community support systems, and to demonstrate to young people that their contributions are valued and respected. To be jointly funded initially by Arts SA and the Office of Crime Prevention.

Target group: 10-18 years

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: In operation by June 2002

Responsible agency: Arts SA and the Office of Crime Prevention

Website: [www.arts.sa.gov.au](http://www.arts.sa.gov.au)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Carclew Youth Arts Centre</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carclew aims to develop and provide programs of excellence in all art forms for children and young people to the age of 26 years, including disconnected young people. Carclew delivers arts workshops, activities, training, volunteering, skill development, networking and performance opportunities for all young people.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Target group: Under 26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coverage: State wide</td>
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<tr>
<td>Timeframe: Ongoing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Responsible agency: Carclew Youth Arts Centre</td>
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<tr>
<th>Multicultural Youth Leadership Summits</th>
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<tr>
<td>Confirming young people's identity and pride in diversity and strategies they can take back to schools, families and peer groups to foster respect for and awareness of diversity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target group: Emphasis on senior secondary school students</td>
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<td>Coverage: Metropolitan and country SA venues</td>
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<td>Timeframe: Annual</td>
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<td>Responsible agency: DOMA, DPC</td>
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<td>Website: <a href="http://www.premcab.sa.gov.au">www.premcab.sa.gov.au</a></td>
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Initiatives targeting Recommendation 21

New South Wales

Business Youth Technology Education

The Business Youth Technology Education (BYTES) project was developed in response to identified needs of students and industry. The project involves the online delivery of HSC courses from the Information Technology, Business Services and Retail Curriculum Frameworks.

Target group: Rural and geographically isolated students and girls from language backgrounds other than English.

Coverage: Selected secondary schools across the State.

Timeframe: Ongoing


Website: www.det.nsw.gov.au

TAFE Outreach

The Outreach area in TAFE NSW Institutes provides flexible and responsive programs for young people at risk across New South Wales. These programs are run in partnership with schools, other government agencies and community groups. They can be offered either on or off campus depending on the needs of the young people.

Target group: Post compulsory school aged young people at risk.

Coverage: All Institutes of TAFE NSW across the State.

Timeframe: Ongoing.


Website: www.det.nsw.gov.au
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 21

Tasmania

**Work Mentor Program**

Students at risk are placed in a workplace for a day per week over a period of six weeks. The placement is tailored to the interests of the students and adult mentor. This program has been operating for 7 years in the Derwent District and consequently a strong network with local businesses in each district has been formed.

- **Target Group:** Year 7 - 12
- **Coverage:** State wide
- **Timeframe:** 1995 - current
- **Responsible Agency:** Department of Education

[Website: www.education.tas.gov.au]

**E-learn / E-Magine/Learnscope/E-Degree**

New online initiatives designed to provide people in rural and remote area of Tasmanian access to free online information technology training. High quality online learning opportunities available via Skill Centre, Online Centres, Colleges and TAFE. Best practice model Dover District High School delivering VET Aquaculture to metropolitan and rural schools online. Tasmanian Online Communities have formed partnerships with TAFE and University of Tasmania to facilitate free online technology.

- **Target Group:** Open
- **Coverage:** State wide
- **Responsible Agency:** Department of Education / Office of Post-Compulsory Education and Training

[Website: www.education.tas.gov.au]

**Partnership Conference**

The purpose of the conference was to promote the opportunities and possibilities for partnerships in lights of emerging national, state and local policy. The conference provided the opportunity to showcase the emerging partnerships and celebrate partnerships at grass roots level.

- **Target Group:** Schools, colleges, Registered training organisations, enterprises, industry and community organisations
- **Coverage:** State wide
- **Timeframe:** Conference
- **Responsible Agency:** Office of Post Compulsory Education and Training

[Website: www.education.tas.gov.au]
Skill Centres

The development of Skill Centres throughout rural Tasmania has provided the opportunity for youth to access education and training in a familiar setting. The provision of post compulsory education in rural communities has been a major success of the Skill Centre development program which can respond to regional needs and provide the opportunity to foster shared facilities and co-location of services.

Target Group: 16+ years
Coverage: Tasmania rural
Timeframe: 1997 - current
Agencies: Office of Post Compulsory Education and Training
Website: www.ovet.tas.gov.au

Project HAHN

A primary prevention program which is very successful in providing personal development through adventure-based program. Individuals access the program through referrals from Commonwealth employment agencies, community and custodial correction, schools, youth accommodation, disability, drug and alcohol services and self referrals.

Target Group: At risk 15 -25+ yeas
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: 1996-current

Certificate of Work Skills

Has been developed as an accredited preparatory course which ensures that students are fully equipped to take part in VET courses and vocational placements. The course focuses on general employability skills, basic numeracy and literacy, intensive support and short vocational placements and supportive teaching staff.

Target Group: Year 11/12/13 students
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: Current
Responsible Agency: Office of Post-Compulsory Education and Training
Website: www.ovet.tas.gov.au
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 21

Western Australia

Senior Colleges and Senior Campuses and Alternative Programs
Diverse education programs provided for re-entry/"second chance" students in a "university style" environment in senior colleges and senior campuses. As well, a range of programs are provided for young people who, for one reason or another, are unable to engage in education in a school setting.

Target group: Yr 8 - 12+
Coverage: Rural and metropolitan
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible Agency: Department of Education
Website: www.eddept.wa.edu.au

Competitively Allocated Training (CAT)
Through its youth at risk stream, the program provides support for vocational education and training (VET) providers to implement upper secondary education and VET programs.

Target group: Youth at risk
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible agency: Department of Training
Website: www.training.wa.gov.au

The New Apprenticeships Access Programme (NAAP)
The NAAP program provides job seekers who experience barriers to skilled employment, with pre-vocational training, support and assistance to obtain and maintain a New Apprenticeship.

Target group: Disadvantaged youth
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible agency: Department of Training
Website: www.training.wa.gov.au
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 21

Australian Capital Territory

Youth Education Program (YEP)

YEP is unique in its approach to addressing the psychosocial needs of young people not accessing mainstream education. It operates out of Youth in the City, a youth centre supported by Anglicare and Youth and Family Services and located in the heart of Canberra.

The centre has, on site, an internet café funded by FaCS that integrates the work of the Youth Education Program. It operates as a drop-in centre where young people receive referral and advocacy support for their at risk issues, including literacy and life skills, career counselling, access to educational services and labour market programs and individual assessments. YEP has two full time teachers funded by the Department of Education and Community Services and students are able to study NSW TAFE Year 12 courses online. Students are also able to access youth worker support, community development support and family support to complement their school study.

The Youth Education Program has been successful in receiving POEMS funding from DEST and intends to extend the intake of people in the program from 12 to 24 students. YEP also receives a significant level of sponsorship from a local Anglican school, which has assisted in resourcing and training staff and running joint activities with the YEP students.

Target Group: Young people aged 15-25

Coverage: Canberra

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible Agency: Anglicare in partnership with the ACT Department of Education and Community Services

Website: www.decs.act.gov.au

Galilee

Galilee Incorporated is an ACT charity operating an alternative educational program based on a relational model founded in the value of each young person and his or her need to be respected, loved and humanised by the institution. It differs from many of the other alternatives that are based upon the behaviourist mode of operation. The program is directed towards substitute care clients, most of whom come from very dysfunctional family backgrounds.

Galilee’s programs are located at Youth Haven farm, a property managed by Lions International that has numerous community agencies operating from the site. Young people in Galilee’s programs are able to access a range of services delivered by community agencies such as Fusion Australia, local church groups and the Lions Club.

Education programs range from a registered non-government school that offers...
students the opportunity to complete a Year 10 Certificate, to experiences in horticulture, glass blowing and agriculture in commercial settings. The education services at Galilee are delivered by a variety of professionals and para-professionals including teachers, community health workers, community education workers and youth workers.

A range of skills development programs at the farm are funded through the Commonwealth Supported Assistance Accommodation Program (SAAP) supporting homeless young people in ACT refuges. The education services at Galilee are also funded by the ACT Department of Education and Community Services, and DEST.

Target Group: Young people aged 10-25
Coverage: ACT wide
Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible Agency: Office of Youth and Community Services within the Department of Education and Community Services in partnership with Galilee Inc.

Contact Information: Family Services, (02) 6207 1089
Website: [www.decs.act.gov.au](http://www.decs.act.gov.au)

**Young Carers' Package**

To support young carers, the Government has allocated $0.95 million over four years, commencing with $0.125 million in 2001-2002. The aim of this initiative is to raise awareness of young carer issues with schools, professionals, community and government services. It will also assist with a brokerage program that supports young carers in their education by providing such assistance as additional tuition and school materials, as well as support in addressing their responsibilities, accessing counselling and providing in-house practical support.

The ACT Department of Education and Community Services has identified young carers as a particularly vulnerable group. The effects of their responsibilities on their lives include high levels of absenteeism and lateness with homework, low self esteem, and high levels of anxiety and stress. Support for young carers to enable them to succeed in education is extremely important.

Target Group: Young people under 18 responsible for the care of family members
Coverage: Territory wide
Timeframe: Ongoing as funding allows

Responsible Agency: ACT Department of Education and Community Services
Contact Information: Youth and Community Services, (02) 6205 0533
Website: [www.decs.act.gov.au](http://www.decs.act.gov.au)
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 21

Commonwealth

Partnership Outreach Education Model (POEM)

The Pilots will provide opportunities for 'disconnected young people' to engage in accredited education and training with the ultimate aim of assisting participants to reengage in mainstream education when they become ready. This pilot initiative was introduced as part of the ongoing response to the Footprints to the Future report and specifically addresses Recommendation 21. The Partnership Outreach Education Model pilots will target young people who have become disconnected from mainstream education (and quite possible the families and communities) and engage them in community learning environments. The pilots will provide governments, schools, youth related service providers, business, communities and young people and their families with an opportunity to share learnings as they test a partnership approach to the delivery of education, life skills and employability skills training for those young people (aged 13 - 19).

Target group: 'Disconnected young people' aged 13 - 19 for whom mainstream education is not a viable option

Coverage: A national trial is underway

Timeframe: 2002 - 2003

Responsible agency: Department of Education, Science and Training

Website: [www.dest.gov.au](http://www.dest.gov.au)

National Indigenous English Literacy and Numeracy Programme (NIELNS)

The objective of the National Indigenous English Literacy and Numeracy Strategy is to achieve English literacy and numeracy for Indigenous students at levels comparable to those achieved by other young Australians.

The strategy acknowledges that extra effort is required by education providers for Indigenous students to be successful and aims to address six key elements:

- Achieving Attendance
- Overcoming Hearing, Health and Nutrition Problems
- Preschooling Experiences
- Getting Good Teachers
- Using the Best Teaching Methods
- Measuring Success, Achieving Accountability

Under the NIELNS, DEST funds a range of projects that provide personalised support, community learning environments, and vocational learning experiences to young Indigenous people who are at risk of disconnection or who have become disconnected. Some initiatives focus specifically on the issue of literacy and/or numeracy whilst others seek to improve educational outcomes via other means such as increasing attendance rates, involving parents and the community, addressing health issues and mentoring.
ECEF - WADU Indigenous Youth Partnerships Initiatives

The Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST) has provided funding to the Enterprise and Career Education Foundation (ECEF) to manage and deliver the Wadu Indigenous Youth Partnership Initiative (IYPI) from June 2000 to the end of 2002. IYPI builds on ECEF's existing Wadu strategy.

Wadu IYPI is addressing young Indigenous people's relative disadvantage in education, training and employment. This involves a 'whole of community' approach to supporting Indigenous youth to remain at or return to school, and provides a reliable pathway from schooling to training and employment and onto independence. IYPI complements and forms part of the broader Federal Government's National Indigenous English Literacy and Numeracy Strategy.

To May 2002, twenty IYPI projects had been run nationwide with the two most recent additions being in the Cape York and Newcastle regions under a model of collaboration between ECEF, DEST, the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR), Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC), Family and Community Services (FaCS) and the Department of Health and Ageing.

Australians Working Together - Indigenous Education and Training

Under Australians Working Together, DEST will consult with ECEF regarding the development of projects to encourage increased vocational learning opportunities for Indigenous secondary school students.

Responsible Agency: Department of Education, Science and Training, through the Enterprise and Career Education Foundation
Australians Working Together - Working Together for Indigenous Youth

Under the Commonwealth Government's Australians Working Together package funding has been allocated to the Working Together for Indigenous Youth initiative to provide specific support for Indigenous students to stay on to complete year 12 or move into further education, training or paid employment.

Working Together for Indigenous Youth provides a national framework for the promotion and ongoing operations of local partnerships between key stakeholders in Indigenous education. The overarching goals and guiding principles for this initiative are encompassed in the following five key elements:

- working together in partnership;
- local commitment and ownership;
- effective intervention strategies;
- effective funding arrangements; and
- measuring success and achieving accountability.

Target Group: Indigenous people

Coverage: National

Timeframe: 2002 to 2004

Contact: Branch Manager
Indigenous Policy Development and Co-ordination Branch
Ph: (02) 6240 7720

Website: http://www.together.gov.au/

Responsible Agency: Department of Education, Science and Training

Woolaning School

Construction of a secondary residential school at Woolaning, to deliver a standard education on a remote community site that will also offer a mix of educational experiences to traditional Indigenous students in a way that supports their culture and involves communities.

Target Group: Indigenous Young People

Coverage: Northern Territory

Timeframe: 2002-2003

Contact: Director
Business Management and Implementation Team
Indigenous Programme Delivery Branch
Ph: (02) 6240 7667

Responsible Agency: Department of Education, Science and Training

Website: www.dest.gov.au

Commonwealth Development and Employment Projects (CDEP) Scheme - Literacy and Numeracy Programme

Two CDEP pilot projects commenced in mid 2001 in Broome, Western Australia and Port Lincoln in South Australia to trial innovative, flexible and culturally appropriate delivery of literacy and numeracy training for CDEP participants. Participants enrolled in training in these pilots prior to December 2001 are expected to complete their training in 2002.
Target Group: CDEP participants
Coverage: Broome, Western Australia and Port Lincoln, South Australia
Timeframe: 2001-2002
Contact: Director
    Literacy and Numeracy Section
    Quality and Access Branch
    Ph: (02) 6240 5936
Responsible Agency: Department of Education, Science and Training
Website: www.dest.gov.au
Stepping Forward - Sharing What Works

Recommendation 22

The taskforce recommends that:

- that the Commonwealth government work with State and Territory governments, the Australian National Training Authority, and the Australian Student Traineeship Foundation to ensure that young people not connected to formal education and training or employment have:
  - opportunities to develop their understanding of work culture;
  - vocational experiences in supportive and well-supervised work settings; and
  - opportunities to participate in structured workplace learning models and obtain employability skills including competence in up-to-date information technology usage.

Initiatives addressing Recommendation 22

Below is a compilation of initiatives, listed by State/Territory and Commonwealth, that contribute to building the foundations of support needed to promote the wellbeing, participation and identification of young people in vulnerable circumstances. In addition, you are encouraged to look at the current selection of Snapshots gathered for the State/Territory and Commonwealth initiatives targeting Recommendation 22.

Queensland

Department of Innovation and Information Economy

- Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Skills, Training and Role Models (i-STAR) Grants Program

Department of Employment and Training

- Get Set For Work
- Community Training Partnerships
- Community Employment Assistance Programs
- Community Jobs Plan
- Public Sector Employment Initiative
- School-based Apprenticeship and Traineeship
- Youth for the Environment and Local Communities
- Private Sector Employment Initiative
- VET in Schools Program
- Youth Access Program
Queensland Health

- Aboriginal and Islander Career Aspirations Pathway Program
- Aboriginal Tertiary Aspirations Program
- Indigenous Allied Health Cadetships

Department of Housing

- New Apprenticeships Access Program

Disability Services Queensland

- Moving Ahead Post School Services Program
- Local Area Coordination
- Friendship Program

Victoria

Department of Justice

- Koori Recruitment and Career Development Strategy

Department of Education and Training

- Local Learning and Employment Networks
- Action Plan for School to Work Transition for VCE Students
- VET in the VCE
- Youth Pathways Program

Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development

- Go For IT Traineeships
- Young Achievement Australia and Shell Livewire Program

Northern Territory

Department of the Chief Minister

- Indigenous Youth Employment Strategy for Alice Springs

Department of Employment, Education and Training

- Vocational Education

South Australia

Department of Education, Training and Employment

- Partnership and Outreach Education Models (POEMs)
- TAFE Programs for Indigenous Youth
- Regional Training Program
- Pre-apprentice Trade Training Program
- VET Infrastructure for Indigenous Australians

Arts SA

- Young People, Crime Prevention and the Arts Initiative
New South Wales

Department of Education and Training

- VET in Schools
- Work Education Course
- Workplace Learning Initiative
- Industry curriculum frameworks
- School to Work Planning Initiative
- Arabic Youth Partnership Initiative

Tasmania

- Stated Commonwealth programmes – JPET and Youth Portal

Western Australia

Department of Education

- Pre-vocational and Pre-apprenticeship programs
- Youth Skills Investment
- Jobworks
- The Employment Jumpstart Program (EJP)
- Priority Access
- VET in Schools
- The New Apprenticeships Access Programme (NAAP)

Australian Capital Territory

ACT Department of Education and Community Services

- Pathways to Employment Opportunities Program

Commonwealth

Department of Education, Science and Training

- New Apprenticeships
- Enterprise and Career Education Foundation (ECEF)
- ECEF - WADU Indigenous Youth Partnerships Initiatives
- Implementation of the Framework for Vocational Education in Schools
- VET in Schools programmes
- Career and Transition (CATS) Pilots
- Partners in a Learning Culture: Australia’s National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Strategy for Vocational Education and Training 2000-2005
- National Indigenous English Literacy and Numeracy Strategy (NIELNS)
- Australians Working Together - Indigenous Education and Training
- Australians Working Together - Working Together for Indigenous Youth
- Commonwealth Development and Employment Projects (CDEP) Scheme – Literacy and Numeracy Programme

Department of Family and Community Services, Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, and Department of Education, Science and Training
Sharing What Works - Snapshots

Recommendation 22

**Youth Access Program - "...getting schooling, getting an apprenticeship, getting a future..." - Qld**

The Youth Access Program provides a quality path through post compulsory education, training and employment leading to completing secondary schooling, vocational qualifications and employment. The program targets young people at risk of leaving school early or who have poor educational achievement and who would have difficulty securing or completing an apprenticeship.

Quotes from participating students ...

**Clancy**
Everyone had given up on me. They told me I would be in jail by the time I was 19. I now know that is not true. I know I can now do things and be useful. The college has given me the chance to show that I am good with my hands. I know I will be able to get a job on a farm and I know I will be able to do the work. I don't want the college to end. It is the best thing I have ever done.

**Chris**
For some reason when I am here (at college) I can control my temper. At school if something went wrong I would 'crack up' and throw things and end up in big trouble. The other day when the instructor said that I will have to fix up the tool box I was making, I did it. I even worked through morning tea and lunch to get it right. I have never done that before. People think I am no good, but at college they don't think that.

**Dave**
I was going to leave school at the end of Year 10. I wasn't enjoying it much and I found it a bit difficult. I really wanted to get into the building industry so when I found out I could do that and finish my school studies, I decided to stay at school. My school work improved, I could now make sense out of what I was learning at school. I really enjoyed the program. I like making things with my hands. It was a chance to try out
all the different trades. I’ve been offered a school-based apprenticeship in plastering. I feel pretty special because I know I have a job to go to when I finish school.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 22.

Galilee - ACT

Galilee Incorporated is an ACT charity operating youth services including foster care, vocational education and training, registered school, and an education support program.

Galilee's programs are located at Youth Haven farm in the southern suburbs of the ACT. Youth Haven is a property managed by Lions International and has numerous community agencies operating from the site. Young people in Galilee's programs are able to access a range of services delivered by community agencies such as Fusion Australia, local church groups and the Lions Club. The target group is young people aged 10-25.

Education programs range from an alternative registered school on site, to experiences in horticulture at the commercial retail nursery and agriculture across the farm. The education services at Galilee are delivered by a variety of professionals and para-professionals including teachers, community health workers, community education workers and youth workers.

A range of skills development programs at the farm are funded through the Commonwealth Supported Assistance Accommodation Program (SAAP) supporting homeless young people in ACT refuges. The education services at Galilee are funded by ACT Department of Education and Community Services, and Commonwealth Department of Education Science and Training. Most of the young people attain their ACT Year 10 Certificate at the school as well as other work skills and vocational qualifications.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 22.
Baw Baw Latrobe Local Learning and Employment Network is conducting a model Case Study for an industry-based training course. The Case Study will map and assess partnerships between education and training providers and industry, pathways from school to work and resource opportunities and impediments to innovative education and training solutions.

The project focuses on the development of an Aeronautical Skills Certificate by Kurnai College in partnership with Australia's only aircraft manufacturer, Gippsland Aeronautics, Kangan Batman and Central Gippsland TAFEs.

The project aims to develop innovative pathways for the region's young people, which will address a local skill need in an emerging industry through enhance partnerships between local training providers, industry and the community.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 22.

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**Go For IT - Vic**

Ticket Xpress are an Australian company involved in brokering airline tickets and holiday packages. They are a small but quickly growing company based in Melbourne. Through their website ticketing facility they have been successful in obtaining considerable overseas business, especially in the United States of America. Ticket Xpress is in the process of expanding its ticketing and holiday packaging business, to service the increased export sales into the US.

As a consequence they advertised for a number of potential IT trainees and have implemented a formal training program for IT trainee personnel. The program revolves around the Victorian Government's Go For IT program and is focussed on information technology and communication training.

The traineeship involves a combination of traditional classroom training, on the job training and work experience, and is structured on three levels. It commences with Certificate II in Information Technology, progressing to Certificate III in Digital Pre-Press and then to the final stage of Certificate III in International Retail Travel Sales.

Following the successful recruiting program in January 2002, Ticket Xpress has committed to recruit up to 30 new trainees over the next 12
months. Already 10 young people have been offered a traineeship position, and the company is delighted with the aptitude and enthusiasm of the young people recruited under the Go For IT program.

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to [Initiatives targeting Recommendation 22](#).
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 22

Queensland

Information and Communication Technology Skills, Training and Role Models (i-STAR) Grants Program

The i-STAR grants program is part of the Queensland Government’s commitment to job creation in the information and communication technology (ICT) industry for all Queenslanders. Specifically, i-STAR focuses on developing ICT skills and training opportunities for all sections of the Queensland community. The program is being conducted over four years (2000-2003) and is based on the following three functions:

- developing greater interest in ICT skills and training
- promoting and developing the variety of pathways for Queenslanders seeking jobs and careers in the ICT industry
- promoting and developing the variety of pathways open to Queenslanders seeking jobs and careers in the ICT industry
- creating easier access to ICT jobs and careers through the development of regional and state wide ICT career and recruitment networks.

Target group: The majority of i-STAR projects directly or indirectly target Queensland youth. There is a particular emphasis on young people in regional communities and also from sectors of the community under-represented in the ICT industry. This includes young women and people from non-English speaking backgrounds as well as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders. The aim is to give these target groups exposure to the opportunities provided by the ICT industry as well as mechanisms for them to access training, jobs and careers in the ICT industry.

Coverage: Queensland

Timeframe: Four year grant program

Responsible agency: Department of Innovation and Information Economy, Sport and Recreation

Contact: Senior Project Officer
  Industry Development Unit
  Information Industries Bureau
  Ph: (07) 3405 6603

Website: www.iib.qld.gov.au/i-star.html

Get Set For Work
(also addresses recs. 19, 20 and 21)

Intensive training and employment assistance and a wage subsidy for project participants who gain employment.

Target Group: Unemployed early school leavers aged 15-24 years communities of high youth unemployment.

Coverage: 35 projects worth $2.94 million have been approved assisting 952
participants. 89 youths have already gained employment. Activity is limited to 15 areas across the State identified as experiencing high levels of youth unemployment.

Timeframe: The program is funded from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002.

Responsible Agency: Department of Employment and Training

Contact: Manager
Community Employment Programs
Ph: (07) 3225 2113


**Community Training Partnerships**
(also addresses rec. 21)

Aims to address key local/regional employment opportunities or issues that require skills development that cannot be adequately or readily addressed through other programs and avenues. A key goal of the program is to maximise the employment opportunities for the local workforce, particularly for those persons who are disadvantaged in the labour market and otherwise unable to access necessary training. Training needs to be tailored in recognition of the needs of participants – and focused on the identified local and regional employment opportunities.

Target group: Unemployed and under employed.

Coverage: 11 pilots and 70 projects throughout Queensland. It is anticipated that of the 5,133 participants who will be assisted through these projects, 1,165 will be in the 15-24 age group.


Responsible Agency: Department of Employment and Training

Contact: Manager
Community Training Partnerships
Ph: (07) 3006 4165


**Community Employment Assistance Program**
(also addresses recs. 19, 20 and 21)

Community organisations are funded to provide intensive employment and training assistance including post placement support/mentoring.

Target Group: Long-term unemployed and those at risk of being long term unemployed.

Coverage: State wide. Grants totalling $19 million were approved for 352 projects throughout Queensland for organisations to assist 15,507 long-term unemployed people gain better skills and more job opportunities with 5,826 gaining jobs. 40% of those assisted were youth and 37% who gained employment were youth.

Timeframe: The program is funded over six financial years to 30 June 2004.

Responsible Agency: Department of Employment and Training

Contact: Manager
Community Employment Programs
Ph: (07) 3225 2113


**Community Jobs Plan**
Provides opportunities for work on a range of public works, community and environmental projects of benefit to the broader community with an emphasis on participants gaining training, competencies and work skills in activities that will lead to employment opportunities relevant to local labour market demands.

Target group: Long-term unemployed and those at risk of being long term unemployed.

Coverage: 539 projects throughout Queensland with grant funding of $76.3 million to employ 6,618 long-term unemployed people. Youth employment accounts for 46% or 3,045 jobs.

Timeframe: The program is funded over six financial years to 30 June 2004.

Responsible Agency: Department of Employment and Training

Contact: Manager Community Employment Program Ph: (07) 3225 2113

Website: www.employment.qld.gov.au/programs.htm

Public Sector Employment Initiative
(also addresses recs 21 and 23)

Aims to increase the number of additional apprenticeships and traineeships in public sector. It focuses on employing additional apprentices and additional trainees in public sector agencies including state government departments, local government, state statutory authorities and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Councils. This program has a high youth participation rate with approximately 70% of participants being aged between 15 and 24 years. Approximately 69% of participants have found employment or further education and training at the conclusion of this program.

Target group: All job seekers are encouraged to apply and the following targets exist:

- Women – 50 per cent
- People from a Non-English Speaking Background – 5 per cent
- People with a Disability – 5 per cent
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People – 5 per cent

Coverage: The program is available across the State with approximately 62% of places filled outside the south east corner.

Timeframe: The program commenced in October 1998 and aims to generate 13,400 additional trainees and 500 additional apprentices in public sector agencies over six financial years.

Responsible Agency: Department of Employment and Training.

Contact: Manager Employment Support Programs Ph: (07) 3406 2093

Website: www.employment.qld.gov.au/programs.htm

School-Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships Initiative
(also addresses rec. 21)

Public sector school based traineeships and apprenticeships have been available since 1 July 2001. The program supports the transition from school to work by
allowing students (typically years 11 and 12) to achieve a senior certificate while they train in an industry area to achieve nationally recognised VET qualifications.

Public sector agencies receive up to $4,000 for each school based placement and the trainees and apprentices are required to work for the department for at least 96 days over the two-year period.

Initially the program was only available to State Government departments but was recently expanded to include local government agencies, state statutory authorities and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community councils. This is expected to increase the geographical spread of school based opportunities, diversify the traineeship and apprenticeship models available and provide additional employment based learning opportunities for disadvantaged young people, including Indigenous youth in remote locations.

Target group: Students (typically years 11 and 12) are encouraged to apply.

Coverage: The program is available across the State. The recent extension of the program to all public sector agencies is expected to increase the geographical spread of school based apprentices and trainees.

Timeframe: The program commenced in July 2001 and funding is available over a three-year period.

Responsible Agency: Department of Employment and Training

Contact: Manager

Employment Support Programs
Ph: (07) 3406 2093

Website: www.employment.qld.gov.au/programs.htm

**Youth for the Environment and Local Communities**
(also addresses recs. 21 and 23)

Aims to create 1,200 additional traineeships in the areas of environmental protection, horticulture and waste management and targets young people aged between 15-24.

Agencies eligible for funding include local government agencies, state government departments, state statutory authorities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community councils and not-for profit community organisations.

Target group: The program targets youth aged between 15-24 years of age and the following targets exist:

- Women – 50 per cent
- People from a Non-English Speaking Background – 5 per cent
- People with a Disability – 5 per cent
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People – 5 per cent

Coverage: The Initiative is available across the State.

Timeframe: The program commenced in July 2001 and funding is available over a two-year period.

Responsible Agency: Department of Employment and Training

Contact: Manager

Employment Support Programs
Ph: (07) 3406 2093

Website: www.employment.qld.gov.au/programs.htm
Private Sector Employment Initiative  
(also addresses recs. 21 and 23)

To address Queensland’s current and emerging skill shortages by facilitating the engagement of additional apprentices and trainees in the private sector thereby reducing the unemployment level and ensuring Queensland’s future skills requirements will be met.

Target group: Private sector employers and group training organisations which employ apprentices and trainees in identified skill shortage areas/occupations and meet the relevant criteria.

Coverage: 86% of additional apprentices and trainees employed across the State between October 1998 and 31 March 2002 have been young people under the age of 25 years.

Timeframe: The program is funded over six financial years to 30 June 2004.

Responsible Agency: Department of Employment and Training.

Contact: Manager  
Employment Support Programs  
Ph: (07) 3406 2093

Website: www.employment.qld.gov.au/programs.htm

VET in Schools Program

VET in schools enables the integration of industry-endorsed training within senior secondary schools. Students can undertake training in a wide range of industries. Queensland students can study VET programs within post compulsory school curriculum in any of the following pathways:

- by undertaking vocational education and training educational experiences developed from the National Training Packages with a view to attaining an entry level qualification
- by taking up a school-based apprenticeship or traineeship which provides the opportunity to complete or partially complete a vocational education and training qualification while, at the same time, completing studies towards a Senior Certificate and engaging in paid and meaningful work
- by undertaking Board of Senior Secondary School Studies developed general subjects with embedded vocational education and training competencies or by undertaking the vocational education and training components alone.

Approximately 57% of all Year 11 and 12 students in Queensland as at 30 June 2001 were enrolled in a vocational education and training in schools program.

Target group: School students in Years 11 and 12

Coverage: Queensland

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Employment and Training in collaboration with Education Queensland.

Contact: Program Manager, Evaluation and Risk Management  
Ph: (07) 3237 0924

Website: www.training.qld.gov.au

Youth Access Program
(also address rec 23)
The aim of the Youth Access Program is to provide training and employment opportunities to Queensland school students who are at risk of leaving school early. Its purpose is to correct and overcome early disadvantage before it becomes endemic by developing the basic skills necessary to access further training and employment through apprenticeships and traineeships.

While the program intends to target those school students in years 9 and 10, the program also extends to students in years 11 and 12. With early intervention, it is hoped that the students will develop skills that will enable them to obtain employment or transition into a school based apprenticeship / traineeship or higher learning.

Target group: Queensland secondary school students in Years 9–12.

Coverage: Queensland

Timeframe: 2001-2003

Responsible agency: Department of Employment and Training

Contact: Training Purchasing
Ph: (07) 3237 1143

Website: www.training.qld.gov.au

**Aboriginal and Islander Career Aspirations Pathway Program**

Working with Education Queensland encouraging students between grades 7-10 to consider working in Queensland Health as a career.

Target group: Indigenous students aged 12-15 years.

Coverage: Queensland

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency : Education Queensland

Contact: Indigenous Education Programs
Ph: (07) 3237 0808

Website: http://education.qld.gov.au/tal/atsi/aicapp

**Aboriginal Tertiary Aspirations Program**

Supporting, encouraging and mentoring Indigenous students through tertiary education.

Target group: Indigenous high school students aged 15-18 years.

Coverage: Queensland

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Education Queensland

Contact: Indigenous Education Programs
Ph: (07) 3237 0808

Website: http://education.qld.gov.au/tal/atsi

**Indigenous Allied Health Cadetships**

During semester holidays students are funded by Queensland Health to gain work experience along side allied health professional. These students are employed on
completion of the course with Queensland Health.

Target group: Indigenous high school students in final year and first year university students.

Coverage: Queensland

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Queensland Health

Contact: Principal Project Officer
Indigenous Workforce Management Strategy
Queensland Health
Ph (07) 3234 1620

Website: www.health.qld.gov.au

**New Apprenticeships Access Program**

As at December 2001 there are 55 Indigenous apprentices employed by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing throughout the State. This includes four female apprentices and 14 school-based apprentices. The apprenticeships are across trades such as carpentry, bricklaying, plumbing and painting. Apprentices are generally employed for 4 years.

The apprentices who have completed their indentures are employed for a further six months to give them experience at a supervisory level and to assist them in undertaking TAFE training towards attaining their Building Construction Licence Level 1.

School based apprentices and trainees can be employed for up to 2 years. The program provides an excellent opportunity for these young people to gain real experience in the building industry.

The success rate for apprentices employed by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing who achieve their trade qualification is 76%.

Target group: New Apprenticeships Access Program is aimed at school leavers including 2% females. School-based apprentices and traineeships are students from Years10-12 including 50% females.

Coverage: Queensland

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Housing

Contact: Regional Manager
Southern Construction
Ph: (07) 3225 1231 Fax: (07) 3227 6736

Website: www.public-housing.qld.gov.au

**Moving Ahead Post School Services Program**

(also addresses recommendation 18 & 23)

The Moving Ahead Post School Services Program (Moving Ahead) supports and encourages the transition of young people as they leave behind the role of student and begin to take on adult roles. As the purpose of the Program is transitional, assistance for each individual is available for a period of up to two years.

Moving Ahead has a dual focus as it provides support not only to the young person but also to their families/carers.

The Program’s focus regarding the young person is aimed at enabling him/her to
The Program’s focus regarding the young person is aimed at enabling him/her to experience a range of options and opportunities as they work toward the transition to adulthood. This support may mean that over the course of their individual program young people may take on a changing role within the family, participate increasingly in the life of their community as well as build on existing relationships and recreational interests. Some young people will also wish to explore vocational goals.

Assistance through the Program is twofold. Firstly, young people and their families will be assisted by Supports Facilitators to identify their needs and goals and to explore the range of possible formal and informal supports required to assist them work toward their individual goals. Secondly, the Program provides individualised funding which is used to purchase the identified supports and services.

Target Group:

Moving Ahead aims to assist those young people who, on leaving school, are not able to access State funded education and prevocational programs and vocational programs funded by the Commonwealth government.

To be eligible for the program, a young person must:

- be 18 years old when they enter the Moving Ahead Program; and
- be exiting or have exited special school or special education programs and/or services; and
- have a level of disability which results in high and complex support needs; and
- be eligible for assistance under the Queensland Disability Services Act, 1992; and
- not have access to tertiary education, vocational training or employment options.

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible Agency: Disability Services Queensland

Contact: Coordinator
Post School Services & Adult Lifestyle Support Programs
Ph: (07) 3224 2234

Website: www.disability.qld.gov.au

**Local Area Coordination**
(also addresses recommendation 18 & 23)

Local Area Coordination is a service provided by Disability Services Queensland, which supports people with a disability and their families who live in the local community. The local area coordinator works with people with disabilities, their families and the local community to bring about positive changes that:

- assist people with a disability live independently and participate in the community;
- assist families in their continued provision of care and support; and
- result in communities becoming more welcoming and inclusive of people with disabilities and their families.

Target Group:

Specific rural and remote areas of Queensland have been targeted to be service by a local area coordinator. The service targets people with a disability as defined under the Queensland Disability Services Act (1992).

Coverage:
Gympie, Hervey Bay, Murgon, Kingaroy, Mundubbera, Emerald, Longreach, Roma, Chinchilla, Charleville, Cunnamulla, Mt Isa, Mareeba, Mossman, Cooktown and Thursday Island.

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible Agency: Disability Services Queensland

Contact: Program Development Coordinator, Local Area Coordination
Ph: (07) 3224 8002

Website: [www.disability.qld.gov.au](http://www.disability.qld.gov.au)

**Friendship Program**
(also addresses recommendation 16, 18 & 23)

The Friendship Program aims to enhance the opportunity for people with a disability to form friendships with other in the community by:

Encouraging friendship support through services and community groups;

An individual support strategy.

Target Group:

Encouraging Friendship Support strategies are targeted to disability services and community groups.

Individual support is available to people with a disability aged 18 – 65 years. People who have limited friendship networks and do not have a supportive service to help them to develop and maintain friendships will be give priority in accessing individual support.

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible Agency: Disability Services Queensland

Contact: State Coordinator
Ph: (07) 3224 0630

Website: [www.disability.qld.gov.au](http://www.disability.qld.gov.au)
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 22

Victoria

Koori Recruitment and Career Development Strategy

This strategy recognises the need to have more Aboriginal officers in Victoria Police and correctional facilities with a priority to have them employed in policy and program development in all justice agencies. Strategy includes:

- Employment targets across all areas of the Justice Portfolio;
- Scholarship programs for Aboriginal students studying law, criminology, police studies and other justice-related courses;
- Scholarships and a mentoring program
- Placement opportunities for Koori trainees within the justice system;
- Development of a support network for Koori employees.

Target group: Koori tertiary students, government trainees and employees

Coverage: Victorian Public Service and the Victorian Indigenous community

Timeframe: 2000 - 2005

Responsible Agency: Indigenous Issues Unit Portfolio Planning, Department of Justice

Website: www.justice.vic.gov.au

Local Learning and Employment Networks (LLENs)

LLENs as a result of their local research and analysis may identify the need for an enhanced focus on vocational experience and structured workplace learning as a local priority for young people.

Target group: Young people aged 15 to 19 years

Coverage: Metropolitan, rural and regional communities across Victoria

Timeframe: 2001-2004

Responsible Agency: Department of Education and Training

Website: www.det.vic.gov.au/det/

Action Plan for School to Work Transition for VCE Students

Implementation of an Action Plan to increase successful school to work transition mechanisms for VCE students through increasing participation rates of Victorian students in part time (school based) traineeships and apprenticeships.

Target group: Students with a post school employment destination and students at risk of not completing Year 12

Coverage: Victorian Students in Years 10 to 12
VET in the VCE

These programs provide access to nationally recognised training sector credentials (from Certificate I to III in the AQF) as part of the overall VCE program. Programs comply with the Training Packages and/or accredited VET curriculum. Most programs include structure workplace learning.

Target group: Students aged 15-19 years in schools or other VCE providers

Coverage: About 25% of the VCE cohort undertake these programs

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible Agency: Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) for development of programs. Funding support to schools from Department of Education and Training

Website: www.det.vic.gov.au/det/

Youth Pathways Program

This program provides funding to deliver training to at-risk young people and provide support to assist the young person to remain in the training. All providers are required to work with the Local Learning and Employment Network (LLEN) in the delivery of training to improve post compulsory education and training outcomes.

Target group: Young people aged 15 - 17 years who have left school, have not completed Year 12, are eligible for Youth Allowance, and are not employed are priorities of this program

Coverage: TAFE Institutes and ACE organisations State wide

Timeframe: 2001-2002

Responsible Agency: The Office of Training and Tertiary Education, Department of Education and Training

Website: www.det.vic.gov.au/det/

Go For IT Traineeships

Go for IT aims to assist people, especially young people to gain employment through an IT, Communications or Multimedia Traineeship.

Target group: Young people aged 15-24 years

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Program expected to run until 2004

Responsible Agency: Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development, New Apprenticeship Centres (NACs) and Group Training Companies (GTCs). Program supported by Australian Interactive Multimedia Association (AIMIA), Australian Information Industry Association (AIIA), Australian Computer Society (ACS) and the Commonwealth IT Skills Hub.

Website: www.iird.vic.gov.au
Young Achievement Australia and Shell Livewire Program

Both programs combine the know-how of existing community leaders with the energy and vitality of young people. The programs support new business enterprises and introduce principles of successful business operation to secondary and tertiary students and other young people.

Target group: Young people aged 18-25

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: 2002

Responsible Agency: Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development

Website: www.iird.vic.gov.au
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 22

Northern Territory

Indigenous Youth Employment Strategy for Alice Springs

The development of this strategy is being sponsored by the Commonwealth Department of Employment and Work Relations and has facilitated the collaboration and cooperation of government agencies, non-government agencies and the private sector in Alice Springs to develop and support this strategy.

The development of the strategy will be completed by April 2002 and the implementation of strategy elements should commence later in the year. The strategy will focus on supporting the private sector to employ young Indigenous people in Alice Springs. Through the strategy support will be available for young Indigenous people who have traditionally had difficulty in accessing and maintaining full time employment.

Elements of the strategy will include increasing private sector awareness of youth needs; linking with school based programs and supporting employers to participate in work experience and New Apprenticeship programs; providing a point of contact for employers to access programs to support Indigenous employment; providing mentoring support for employers and employees; and encouraging and supporting part time employment of Indigenous students to increase understanding of work culture.

Target group: Young Indigenous people of Alice Springs

Coverage: Alice Springs

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of the Chief Minister.

Website: www.nt.gov.au/dcm/

Vocational Education

In order to improve the relevance of school based education, improve retention rates and school to work transition rates, Labor in its position paper "Putting Kids First - Better Territory Schools" undertook to allow the extension of vocational education to the early years of secondary education, to allow a greater emphasis on school to work Transition programs at an earlier stage of schooling.

A whole of community approach will be encouraged to ensure employment opportunities are identified, to improve support from parents and other members of the community, and to reinforce the school as a facilitator of programs that provide school to work pathways.

Target group: The project is designed to cater for the significant number of students who leave school at the end of year 10. Up to now VET programs have been available to Year 11 and 12 students in urban schools and to 15-19 year old students in remote schools.
Coverage: This project will allow for an extension of VET programs to Years 9 and 10 in the existing 22 urban schools and to 14-19 year old students in remote schools across the Northern Territory.

Timeframe: January 2002 to June 2005

Responsible agency: Department of Employment, Education and Training.

Website: www.education.nt.gov.au
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 22

South Australia

**Partnership and Outreach Education Models (POEMs)**

Regional networks will ensure broad cross sectoral partnerships involving the education, community and business sectors are instrumental in building education and training pathways for young people unable to participate in mainstream education.

POEMS will be developed where:

- Education and training services are delivered in settings where young people gather and are comfortable
- Local partnerships involving youth and community agencies, schools, training providers and local employers are essential
- Education and training approaches are developed and delivered in consultation with young people
- Foundation and employability skills are a primary focus

Young people at risk or disconnected have:

- opportunities to develop their understanding of work culture.
- Vocation experiences in supportive and well supervised work settings
- Opportunities to participate in SWL, obtain employability competence in IT use.

**Target group:** Young people who are disconnected from mainstream education and training

**Coverage:** State wide

**Timeframe:** 2002-2003

**Responsible agency:** DETE - Enterprise and Voc. Ed.

**Website:** [www.dete.sa.gov.au](http://www.dete.sa.gov.au)

**TAFE Programs for Indigenous Youth**

Accredited programs delivered for Indigenous young people in areas of high demand for Indigenous communities.

**Target group:** Early school leavers and young CDEP participants

**Coverage:** State wide

**Timeframe:** Up to 3 years

**Responsible agency:** DETE-Office of VET

**Website:** [www.dete.sa.gov.au](http://www.dete.sa.gov.au)

**Regional Training Program**
Regional Organisations eg Regional development Boards, Local government etc enter into formal funding arrangements with the Minister for Employment and Training and are contracted to engage registered training providers to deliver accredited training as part of a negotiated regional package directly linked to local training priorities, identified regional skill shortages and employment opportunities identified in the State VET plan.

Target group: Unemployed persons. (Note: At least 75% of the negotiated hours are notionally for school leavers)

Coverage: 16 regions of the State

Timeframe: 2001-2002

Responsible agency: DETE-Office of VET

Website: www.dete.sa.gov.au

**Pre-apprentice Trade Training Program**

Funds support the delivery of training and placement of young people aged between 16 and 24 into apprenticeships

Target group: School leavers

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: DETE-Office of VET

Website: www.dete.sa.gov.au

**VET Infrastructure for Indigenous Australians**

Provides funds for additional training infrastructure for indigenous Australians

Target group: Indigenous Australians

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: DETE-Office of VET

Website: www.dete.sa.gov.au

**Young People, Crime Prevention and the Arts Initiative**

Arts SA in partnership with the Office of Crime Prevention (Justice Portfolio) is developing a joint initiative targeting young people "at risk", using arts activity (eg drama, contemporary music, or visual art) as the medium.

The objective is to offer high quality opportunities for young people to explore and express their creativity and their aspirations, provide pathways to employment and other community support systems, and to demonstrate to young people that their contributions are valued and respected. To be jointly funded initially by Arts SA and the Office of Crime Prevention.

Target group: 10-18 years

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: In operation by June 2002

Responsible agency: Arts SA and the Office of Crime Prevention
Website: www.arts.sa.gov.au

**Carclew Youth Arts Centre**

Carclew aims to develop and provide programs of excellence in all art forms for children and young people to the age of 26 years, including disconnected young people. Carclew delivers arts workshops, activities, training, volunteering, skill development, networking and performance opportunities for all young people.

**Target group:** Under 26

**Coverage:** State wide

**Timeframe:** Ongoing

**Responsible agency:** Carclew Youth Arts Centre

Initiatives targeting Recommendation 22

New South Wales

VET in Schools

Work Education Course for students in Year 9 and Year 10. This course supports students in better planning and managing their transition from school to further education, training and employment.

Workplace Learning Initiative supports students in planning and managing their transition from school to further education, training and employment. Districts develop local strategies and projects that assist students learning about the world of work. The program focuses on better preparing students, employers and workplace supervisors to participate in workplace learning programs.

Industry curriculum frameworks The Higher School Certificate examined seven industry curriculum frameworks that have mandatory work placements for the first time in 2001. In 2002, the Board of Vocational Education and Training is supporting the expansion of quality work placements.

School to Work Planning Initiative supports students in government secondary and central schools and Schools for Special Purposes (SSPs) to develop and implement individual school to work plans using their Employment Related Skills Logbook. Students are able to identify, document and verify their acquisition of work-related skills in a variety of educational and social contexts.

Arabic Youth Partnership Initiative provides additional guidance and support to Arabic speaking young people to plan their school courses and post-school education, training and employment pathways through the School to Work Program. It will provide employment information forums for Arabic speaking background government high school students and their parents in the Bankstown, Granville, Liverpool and St George Districts.

Target group: VET in Schools initiatives generally target students in government schools in Years 9 to 12. Priority is given to students who are at risk of disengaging from school.

Coverage: Over one-third of NSW government secondary and central schools implemented the Years 9 and 10 Work Education course in 2001. Industry curriculum frameworks courses are available to all Year 11 and 12 students. Students in Juvenile Justice Centres and students in isolated and remote areas may be assisted to begin their study of these courses in stage 5.

Timeframe: Ongoing.

Responsible agency: NSW Department of Education and Training.

Website: www.det.nsw.gov.au
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 22

Tasmania

**JPET**

Referral, advice and assistance to young people 15-21 to address issues which may be preventing them from staying in education or finding employment.

- Coverage: State wide
- Timeframe: Current
- Responsible Agency: Commonwealth

**Youth Portal**

Development and implementation of a youth portal to improve access for young people to advisory services over the internet. The website link zone with more than 1,000 links was completed and launched in 2001.

- Target group: 15 - 25 years
- Coverage: State wide
- Timeframe: 2001-current
- Responsible Agency: Department of Youth Affairs
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 22

Western Australia

Pre-vocational and Pre-apprenticeship programs

These programs aim to improve the pathways to employment and further training for young people, by providing generic skills to prepare post-compulsory aged youth for the workforce.

- Target group: Early school leavers
- Coverage: State wide
- Timeframe: Ongoing
- Responsible agency: Department of Training
- Website: [www.training.wa.gov.au](http://www.training.wa.gov.au)

Youth Skills Investment

This initiative is designed to encourage employers to register their young employees as trainees. As trainees, they receive accredited training and have the opportunity to gain a qualification.

- Target group: Employed teenagers up to age 19 without existing qualification
- Coverage: State wide
- Timeframe: Ongoing
- Responsible agency: Department of Training
- Website: [www.training.wa.gov.au](http://www.training.wa.gov.au)

Jobworks

Jobworks aims to provide employment through enterprise-tailored training for young people who experience difficulty in accessing mainstream employment and training services.

- Target group: Youth at risk
- Coverage: State wide
- Timeframe: 2002
- Responsible agency: Department of Training
- Website: [www.training.wa.gov.au](http://www.training.wa.gov.au)

The Employment Jumpstart Program (EJP)

The program aims to increase the employability of disadvantaged 15-25 year old job-seekers, and maximise access to employment opportunities for youth in the
South East Metropolitan Region (SEMR).
Target group: Youth at risk
Coverage: South East Metropolitan Region (SEMR)
Timeframe: Anticipated to commence mid 2002
Responsible agency: Department of Training
Website: www.training.wa.gov.au

**Priority Access**
This initiative aims at using government procurement and contracting policy to increase the training and employment opportunities for young Western Australian job seekers.

Target group: Any age, but young people specifically
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible agency: Department of Training
Website: www.training.wa.gov.au

**VET in Schools**
The Western Australian Department of Training also provides the framework for VET in schools. VET in schools enables upper secondary school students the opportunity to gain nationally recognised industry skills, while completing their secondary school certificate.

Target group: School students in years 11 and 12
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible agency: Department of Training, Education Department
Website: www.training.wa.gov.au

**The New Apprenticeships Access Programme (NAAP)**
The NAAP program provides job seekers who experience barriers to skilled employment, with pre-vocational training, support and assistance to obtain and maintain a New Apprenticeship.

Target group: Disadvantaged youth
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible agency: Department of Training
Website: www.training.wa.gov.au
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 22

Australian Capital Territory

Pathways to Employment Opportunities Program

This Program is aimed at disadvantaged groups in the labour market who have difficulty accessing mainstream programs. In particular, the Program is targeted to Indigenous youth and unemployed young offenders from the ACT and region. Some of the participants are undertaking Community Service Orders and some are in custody preparing to move back into the community at the end of their sentences.

The Program is designed to prepare participants for the job market, providing them with core entry-level job skills and enhancing their life skills and self-esteem. The objectives of the Program are to place participants in the job market so that they can achieve sustainable jobs and/or move on to further training including New Apprenticeships.

Target group: Unemployed youth

Coverage: Territory wide

Timeframe: Ongoing and funding allows

Responsible Agency: ACT Department of Education and Community Services

Contact Information: Training and Adult Education, (02) 6205 7088

Website: www.decs.act.gov.au
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 22

Commonwealth

New Apprenticeships

A New Apprenticeship is an apprenticeship or traineeship which offers new training flexibilities, new support service arrangements and opportunities in more industries than before.

New Apprenticeships can cover full or part-time work. The part-time arrangements are also available to school students. New Apprenticeships involve a combination of paid work and structured training and must be underpinned by a training agreement which is registered with the relevant State/Territory Training Authority.

New Apprenticeships Centres are a support service established by the Commonwealth Government. They provide information on New Apprenticeships to employers, New Apprentices and other interested parties. They also administer the Commonwealth incentives payments. These incentives are aimed at increasing New Apprenticeships opportunities by supporting employers in the public, private and community sectors to offer ongoing employment and structured training opportunities to New Apprentices.

Target Group: Many New Apprentices are young people, some starting at school, however, adults can be trained under the New Apprenticeships programme.

Geographical Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
Branch Manager
New Apprenticeships Branch
Vocational Education and Training Group
Department of Education, Science and Training
02 6240 7338

Initiative Website address: http://www.newapprenticeships.gov.au/

Responsible agency: Department of Education, Science and Training

The Enterprise and Career Education Foundation (ECEF)

The ECEF encourages and supports effective school-industry partnerships to link businesses, schools and communities to create a diversity of learning experiences. ECEF aims to help young Australians acquire enterprise and career knowledge and experience before they leave school. ECEF significantly broadens and refocuses the work of its predecessor, the Australian Student Traineeship Foundation (ASTF).

The ECEF supports the creation of partnerships that provides opportunities for school students to learn and develop in the workplace and broader community. It promotes the expansion of school to work links and supports career education, structured workplace learning initiatives and enterprise education. These activities will enable young Australians to acquire vocational, enterprise and career education, knowledge
and experience before they leave school.

ECEF will achieve these objectives through:

- better integration and coordination of programmes;
- support for States and Territories in the implementation of the new Framework for Vocational Education in Schools;
- facilitation of industry involvement in schools and young people's transitions; and
- undertaking research, marketing and promotion activities.

Target group: Upper secondary school students

Coverage: National

Timeframe: 4 years

Responsible agency: Department of Education, Science and Training

Website: [www.dest.gov.au](http://www.dest.gov.au)

**ECEF - WADU Indigenous Youth Partnerships Initiatives**

The Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST) has provided funding to the Enterprise and Career Education Foundation (ECEF) to manage and deliver the Wadu Indigenous Youth Partnership Initiative (IYPI) from June 2000 to the end of 2002. IYPI builds onto ECEF's existing Wadu strategy.

Wadu IYPI is addressing young Indigenous people's relative disadvantage in education, training and employment. This involves a 'whole of community' approach to supporting Indigenous youth to remain at or return to school, and provides a reliable pathway from schooling to training and employment and onto independence. IYPI complements and forms part of the broader Federal Government's National Indigenous English Literacy and Numeracy Strategy.

To May 2002, twenty IYPI projects had been run nation-wide with the two most recent additions being in the Cape York and Newcastle regions under a model of collaboration between ECEF, DEST, the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR), Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC), Family and Community Services (FaCS) and the Department of Health and Ageing.

Target Group: Indigenous Young People

Coverage: National

Timeframe: June 2000 - December 2002

Contact: Branch Manager
Indigenous Policy Development and Co-ordination Branch
Ph: (02) 6240 7720


Responsible Agency: Department of Education, Science and Training through the Enterprise and Career Education Foundation

**Implementation of the Framework for Vocational Education in Schools**

The Commonwealth is working with all Education Ministers through the Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs (MCEETYA) to implement a new Framework for vocational education in schools.

The Framework promotes a broad view of Vocational Education in order to prepare
students for work. This is integrated into the school curriculum at all levels, not just the post-compulsory years. The Framework encompasses career information and guidance, as well as both general and dual-accredited VET courses, including school-based New Apprenticeships.

Target group: Primarily School students but also all Australians

Coverage: National

Timeframe: 2001 - 2004

Responsible Agency: State, Territory and Commonwealth education and training authorities

**VET in Schools programmes**

One element of the Framework for VET in Schools is the continuing work to expand Vocational Education and Training (VET) in the post-compulsory years including part-time, school-based New Apprenticeships. VET in Schools programmes provide credit towards the senior secondary certificate and a national industry-recognised vocational qualification. Vocational Education programmes may involve on-the-job training with local businesses, giving students valuable exposure to the workplace and development of work-related skills.

Target group: School students (senior secondary)

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible Agency: Commonwealth, State and Territory education and training authorities, non-government education authorities and the Australian National Training Authority (ANTA)

**Career and Transition (CATS) Pilots**

During the 2002 school year, twenty three Career and Transition Pilot (CATS) projects across Australia are exploring methodologies for and testing ways to enhance career and transition support to young people aged 13-19 years. The pilot projects will offer improved career and transition information, support, guidance and advice and will include the development of individual learning pathways plans focusing on young peoples transitions through school and from school to further education, training and work, prepared with the support of dedicated Transition Advisors. Local partnerships between schools, the community, government and industry as well as links with families are an integral part of these projects.

The CAT projects have been developed as part of the Government's response to the Youth Pathways Action Plan Taskforce's Report Footprints to the Future, in particular to recommendations 4,5 and 6.

The Career and Transition (CAT) Pilots contain four major components:

- Community Partnership Committees;
- dedicated Career and Transition Advisers;
- Learning Pathways Plans for young people aged 13 - 19; and
- testing ways of tracking the transitions of young people for 18 months post school

Target Group: Young people aged 13-19

Geographical Coverage: 23 projects will operate across a variety if setting in metropolitan, regional and remote areas of Australia.

Timeframe: 12 months from April 2002
Partners in a Learning Culture: Australia’s National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Strategy for Vocational Education and Training 2000 - 2005

Partners in a Learning Culture is a five-year national strategy (2000-2005), with an accompanying implementation blueprint for increasing opportunities for Indigenous people in vocational education and training. These documents are designed to contribute to reconciliation and justice and support community economic development and sustainability among Indigenous Australians.

The Australian Indigenous Training Advisory Council (AITAC) has been established to monitor the implementation of the blueprints for Partners in a Learning Culture. The Blueprint outlines strategies and actions for each of the stakeholders to undertake. Membership of AITAC includes representatives from key Commonwealth agencies, the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, ANTA, Aboriginal Education Consultative Bodies, the Federation of Aboriginal Independent Education Providers, the Australian Council of Trade Unions, Registered Training Organisations, each State Training Authority, the Enterprise and Career Education Foundation and Small Business.

Target Group: Indigenous people
Coverage: National
Timeframe: 2000 to 2005

Contact: Branch Manager
Indigenous Policy Development and Co-ordination Branch
Ph: (02) 6240 7720
Website: http://www.anta.gov.au/daplearning.asp

Responsible Agency: Australian National Training Authority (ANTA)

National Indigenous English Literacy and Numeracy Programme (NIELNS)

The objective of the National Indigenous English Literacy and Numeracy Strategy is to achieve English literacy and numeracy for Indigenous students at levels comparable to those achieved by other young Australians.

The strategy acknowledges that extra effort is required by education providers for Indigenous students to be successful and aims to address six key elements:

- Achieving Attendance
- Overcoming Hearing, Health and Nutrition Problems
- Preschooling Experiences
- Getting Good Teachers
- Using the Best Teaching Methods
- Measuring Success, Achieving Accountability

Under the NIELNS, DEST funds a range of projects that provide personalised support, community learning environments, and vocational learning experiences to young Indigenous people who are at risk of disconnection or who have become disconnected. Some initiatives focus specifically on the issue of literacy and/or numeracy whilst others seek to improve educational outcomes via other means such
as increasing attendance rates, involving parents and the community, addressing health issues and mentoring.

Target Group: Indigenous Young People
Coverage: National
Timeframe: 2000 to 2004
Contact: Branch Manager
Indigenous Programme Delivery Branch
Ph: (02) 6240 5055
Website: [www.dest.gov.au/schools/indigenous/nielns.htm](http://www.dest.gov.au/schools/indigenous/nielns.htm)

**Australians Working Together - Indigenous Education and Training**

Under Australians Working Together, DEST will consult with ECEF regarding the development of projects to encourage increased vocational learning opportunities for Indigenous secondary school students.

Target Group: Indigenous Young People
Coverage: National
Timeframe:
Contact: Branch Manager
Indigenous Policy Development and Co-ordination Branch
Ph: (02) 6240 7720

Responsible Agency: Department of Education, Science and Training
Website: [www.dest.gov.au](http://www.dest.gov.au)

**Australians Working Together - Working Together for Indigenous Youth**

Under the Commonwealth Government's Australians Working Together package funding has been allocated to the Working Together for Indigenous Youth initiative to provide specific support for Indigenous students to stay on to complete year 12 or move into further education, training or paid employment.

Working Together for Indigenous Youth provides a national framework for the promotion and ongoing operations of local partnerships between key stakeholders in Indigenous education. The overarching goals and guiding principles for this initiative are encompassed in the following five key elements:

- working together in partnership;
- local commitment and ownership;
- effective intervention strategies;
- effective funding arrangements; and
- measuring success and achieving accountability.

Target Group: Indigenous people
Coverage: National
Timeframe: 2002 to 2004
Contact: Branch Manager
Indigenous Policy Development and Co-ordination Branch
Ph: (02) 6240 7720

Responsible Agency: Department of Education, Science and Training

Commonwealth Development and Employment Projects (CDEP) Scheme - Literacy and Numeracy Programme

Two CDEP pilot projects commenced in mid 2001 in Broome, Western Australia and Port Lincoln in South Australia to trial innovative, flexible and culturally appropriate delivery of literacy and numeracy training for CDEP participants. Participants enrolled in training in these pilots prior to December 2001 are expected to complete their training in 2002.

Target Group: CDEP participants

Coverage: Broome, Western Australia and Port Lincoln, South Australia

Timeframe: 2001-2002

Contact: Director
Literacy and Numeracy Section Quality and Access Branch
Ph: (02) 6240 5936

Responsible Agency: Department of Education, Science and Training

Website: www.dest.gov.au

Australians Working Together

Australians Working Together - Helping people to move forward is a major package of initiatives offering significant support and services to help people to help themselves. Young job seekers will benefit from many Australians Working Together (AWT) initiatives announced in the 2001-02 Budget. Young people will also benefit from the improvements to employment services under AWT.

AWT builds on the Government's employment assistance and mutual obligation policies that have attracted widespread support amongst participants and the broader community.

The new system is providing improved personalised assessment and service, more opportunities for training and work experience, better incentives, and reasonable requirements for people to find work, increase their earnings or contribute to their communities.

Centrelink will be the gateway to the new system. Centrelink Personal Advisers will provide a high level of service to people needing additional help to overcome personal or other barriers.

Under AWT young people will have access to more places in Literacy and Numeracy Training, Job Search Training, and Work for the Dole and can earn Training Credits by participating in Work for the Dole and Community Work. Vulnerable and at risk young people will benefit from the better assessment processes in Intensive Assistance and the linkages between Intensive Assistance and other programmes. Young people will also benefit from other initiatives such as the Working Credit (which encourages people on income support to take up full-time, substantial part-time or casual work) and the new Personal Support Programme (designed to help people with problems such as homelessness, and drug and alcohol addiction) that replaces the Community Support Programme. Coverage: National

Timeframe: July 2001 - June 2005

Contact details: together@dewrsb.gov.au

Initiative Website address: http://www.together.gov.au/

Responsible Agency: Shared policy responsibility between Family and Community
**Stepping Forward - Sharing What Works**

**Recommendation 23**

The taskforce recommends that:

- the Commonwealth government promote effective integration of Job Network services and local youth support strategies including:
  - more opportunities for young people to benefit from Intensive Assistance; and
  - an increased awareness of the needs of young people by Job Network providers and of the impact of breaching penalties.
- the Commonwealth government work with State and Territory governments to develop:
  - arrangements which allow a greater number of young people to access New Apprenticeship preparation programmes with entry levels appropriate for young people without adequate basic education competencies, as well as structural and industrial arrangements which make part-time and school-based New Apprenticeships attractive to employers;
  - New Apprenticeship placements in the government, private and community sectors for disadvantaged young people; and
  - a recognition of the importance of education outcomes for young people in New Apprenticeships Access Programme.
- to ensure that young people with high support needs can access New Apprenticeships there must be:
  - adequate pre-placement preparation and post-placement support of young people;
  - on-going mentoring;
  - careful selection, training and support for host employers;
  - a staged induction process developed in consultation with young people; and
  - recognition and assessment of prior learning and a creative approach to structured workplace learning.
- the Work for the Dole programme be enhanced so that it incorporates:
  - adequate preparation of participants in their understanding of occupational health and safety requirements;
  - local programme development processes which consult with young people and community groups in planning and delivering the programme; and
  - clear articulation into traineeships, employment or accredited training.

**Initiatives addressing Recommendation 23**

Below is a compilation of initiatives, listed by State/Territory and Commonwealth, that contribute to building the foundations of support needed to promote the wellbeing, participation and identification of young people in vulnerable
circumstances. In addition, you are encouraged to look at the current selection of Snapshots gathered for the State/Territory and Commonwealth initiatives targeting Recommendation 23.

| Queensland | Victoria | Northern Territory | South Australia | New South Wales | Tasmania |
| Western Australia | Australian Capital Territory | Commonwealth |

**Queensland**

**Department of Employment and Training**

- Public Sector Employment Initiative
- Public Sector School-based Apprenticeships and Traineeships
- Youth for the Environment and Local Communities
- Indigenous Employment Policy
- Youth Access Program

**Disability Services Queensland**

- Moving Ahead Post School Services Program
- Local Area Coordination
- Friendship Program

**Victoria**

**Department of Justice**

- Koori Recruitment and Career Development Strategy

**Department of Education and Training**

- Action Plan for School to Work Transition for VCE Students

**Northern Territory**

**Department of the Chief Minister**

- Indigenous Youth Employment Strategy for Alice Springs

**South Australia**

**Department of Education, Training and Employment**

- Partnership and Outreach Education Models (POEMs)
- Transition Support Networks
- TAFE Programs for Indigenous Youth
- Regional Training Program
- Pre-apprentice Trade Training Program
- VET Infrastructure for Indigenous Australians
- Aboriginal Apprenticeship Program
- Community Employment Assistance Program
- Government Youth Traineeship Scheme
- Job Readiness Training Course
- Youth Employment Program

**New South Wales**
Department of Education and Training

- Part-time Traineeships in NSW Schools program

Tasmania

Office of Post- Compulsory Education and Training

- Tasmanian School Based Traineeships

Western Australia

Department of Education

- VET in Schools
- Apprenticeship and Traineeship Support Network
- GetAccess
- Career Plus Caravan
- Priority Access
- Jobworks
- Training Information Centre
- The New Apprenticeships Access Programme (NAAP)
- Group Training Scheme

Australian Capital Territory

ACT Department of Education and Community Services Office of Training and Adult Education

- Skills 500

ACT Department of Education and Community Services Training and Adult Education

- Indigenous Employee Mentoring Program

Commonwealth

Department of Education, Science and Training

- Jobs Pathway Programme
- Career and Transition (CATS) Pilots
- Career Counselling Programme
- New Apprenticeships
- New Apprenticeships Access Programme (NAAP)
- ACCI Indigenous Education and Employment Project
- ECEF – National Geographic Coverage

Department of Family and Community Services

- Job Placement, Employment and Training (JPET)
- Personal Support Programme

Department of Family and Community Services, Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, and Department of Education, Science and Training
Australians Working Together

Department of Family and Community Services and Department of Employment and Workplace Relations

- Mutual Obligation

Department of Employment and Workplace Relations

- Job Network
- Job Network – Intensive Assistance
- Work for the Dole
- Indigenous Employment
- Youth Employment Forums

Centrelink

- Youth Servicing Strategy for Centrelink

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Recommendation 23

**Careerering Ahead, Building a Future - Commonwealth**

Michelle is 22 and has completed a number of TAFE courses and done some part-time work: "I've made a few bad decisions about my career and thought it was time to get some help. I really want to find out what my strengths are and what sort of career I should pursue. Career Counselling is helping me find out about myself - which occupations suit my interests, personality and skills."

An unemployed brickie was very angry that he had worked for a number of years in a job that he didn't like but had to earn a living. What he wanted to do was to become a doctor. Through the programme it was found that he was well suited to helping people, The Career Counsellor suggested the Cert IV in Health (Nursing) at the local TAFE. Fourteen months later he was working in a local nursing home. He had successfully completed the course and gained a job that he was loving: "I got heaps out of my time with the Career Counsellor - opened my mind to the boundaries I had placed in my own mindset - i.e. job opportunities, resume set up. Really important to have this sort of thing - it motivates people and makes getting employment seem more obtainable and within reach. That the odds are not insurmountable"

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to [Initiatives targeting Recommendation 23](#).

**Work for the Dole Works - Commonwealth**

Huseyin Duzgun saw the Work for the Dole television advertisement and was motivated to write about the benefits he gained from being on the programme two years ago.

"I had low self-esteem, but my supervisor at the Hume City Council Work for the Dole project had
faith in me and put a lot of effort into training and encouraging me,” Huseyin said. "She recognised my abilities and encouraged me to do my best."  

Now working as a client liaison officer with a marketing company in Melbourne, Huseyin says he owes his career to his positive experience with Work for the Dole.  

"I would like to thank everyone who put effort into boosting my confidence and helping me increase my skill base. I would like to encourage people to give Work for the Dole a go because it opened up opportunities for me that I would never have thought possible a few years ago".

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 23.

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**Career Goes Graphic - Commonwealth**

A young Sydney woman made the successful transition from Work for the Dole to work, by becoming the supervisor of a Work for the Dole activity which she helped to establish.

Tara Jakszewicz, 24, of East Hills completed work experience as an administrative assistant at Inner West Skills Centre and helped with a jobs and training project for homeless youth. She came up with the concept of a Work for the Dole activity called "Promoting Design". The activity meant she could use her graphic arts skills to train a group in computer-based graphic design to produce quality promotional material for local community groups.

Inner West Skills Centre got the go ahead to run the project and gave the job of supervisor to Tara. Now she is running a similar Work for the Dole activity called "Go Graphics".

For further information, including details on the target group and responsible agency, follow the link to Initiatives targeting Recommendation 23.
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 23

Queensland

Public Sector Employment Initiative
(also address rec 19)

Aims to increase the number of apprenticeships and traineeships in the public sector. It focuses on employing additional trainees and additional apprentices in public sector agencies, including local government agencies, state government departments, state statutory authorities and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community councils.

This program has a high youth participation rate with approximately 70% of participants being aged between 15 and 24 years. Approximately 69% of participants have found employment or further education and training at the conclusion of this program.

- Target group: All job seekers are encouraged to apply and the following targets exist:
  - Women – 50%
  - People from a Non-English Speaking Background – 5%
  - People with a Disability – 5%
  - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People – 5%

Coverage: The program is available across the State with approximately 62% places filled outside the south east corner.

Timeframe: The program commenced in October 1998 and aims to generate 13,400 additional trainees and 500 additional apprentices in public sector agencies over six financial years.

Responsible agency: Department of Employment and Training

Contact: Manager
  Employment Support Programs
  Ph: (07) 3406 2093

Website: www.employment.qld.gov.au/programs.htm

Public Sector School-based Apprenticeships and Traineeships

The program supports the transition from school to work by allowing students (typically years 11 and 12) to achieve a senior certificate while they train in an industry area to achieve nationally recognised VET qualifications.

Public Sector agencies receive up to $4,000 for each school based placement and the trainees and apprentices are required to work for the department for at least 96 days over the two-year period.

Initially the program was only available to State Government departments but was recently expanded to include local government agencies, state statutory authorities and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community councils. This is expected to increase the geographical spread of school based opportunities, diversify the
traineeship and apprenticeship models available and provide additional employment based learning opportunities for disadvantaged young people, including Indigenous youth in remote locations.

Target group: Years 11 and 12 students

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: The program commenced in July 2001 and funding is available over a three-year period.

Responsible agency: Department of Employment and Training

Contact: Manager
    Employment Support Programs
    Ph: (07) 3406 2093

Website: www.employment.qld.gov.au/programs.htm

Youth for the Environment and Local Communities
(also address rec 21 and 22)

The program aims to create 1,200 additional traineeships in the areas of environmental protection, horticulture and waste management and targets young people aged between 15-24.

Agencies eligible for funding include local government agencies, state government departments, state statutory authorities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community councils and not-for profit community organisations.

Target group: young people aged between 15 – 24 years old and the following target exist:

- Women – 50 per cent
- People from a Non-English Speaking Background – 5 per cent
- People with a Disability – 5 per cent
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People – 5 per cent

Coverage: State wide


Responsible agency: Department of Employment and Training

Contact: Manager
    Employment Support Programs
    Ph: (07) 3406 2093

Website: www.employment.qld.gov.au/programs.htm

Indigenous Employment Policy

This Policy was introduced in May 2001 and requires State Government agencies to include a clause in building and construction tenders for identified Indigenous communities that ensures there will be an employment and training component in all construction over $250,000. Young Indigenous people in the communities will be provided with an opportunity to gain real employment and skills development.

Indigenous Employment and Training Support Officers are also located across Queensland to provide a mentoring and support role for Indigenous apprentices and trainees. These officers assist in better identifying training needs and preferred training delivery methods. The officers are based with community organisations in Bamaga, Greater Cooktown Area, Kowanyama/Pormpuraaw, Lockhart River, Palm Island, Woorabinda, Hervey Bay, Cunnamulla and the Beenleigh-Ipswich corridor.
Their role is to work with the apprentice or trainee and employer to ensure that difficulties encountered during the employment program are resolved. These difficulties could be related to training programs, cultural expectations, health issues or other aspects of the employment program.

Target group: all Indigenous job seekers, apprentices and trainees

Coverage: Indigenous communities


Responsible agency: Department of Employment and Training

Contact: Director, Indigenous Employment Projects
        Ph: (07) 3227 6185

Website: www.employment.qld.gov.au

Youth Access Program
(also addresses recommendation 22)

The aim of the Youth Access Program is to provide training and employment opportunities to Queensland school students who are at risk of leaving school early. Its purpose is to correct and overcome early disadvantage before it becomes endemic by developing the basic skills necessary to access further training and employment through apprenticeships and traineeships.

While the program intends to target those school students in years 9 and 10, the program also extends to students in years 11 and 12. With early intervention, it is hoped that the students will develop skills that will enable them to obtain employment or transition into a school based apprenticeship / traineeship or higher learning.

Target group: Queensland secondary school students in Years 9–12.

Coverage: State-wide

Timeframe: 2001-2003

Responsible agency: Department of Employment and Training

Contact: Training Purchasing
        Ph: (07) 3237 1143

Website: www.training.qld.gov.au

Moving Ahead Post School Services Program
(also addresses recommendation 18 & 22)

The Moving Ahead Post School Services Program (Moving Ahead) supports and encourages the transition of young people as they leave behind the role of student and begin to take on adult roles. As the purpose of the Program is transitional, assistance for each individual is available for a period of up to two years.

Moving Ahead has a dual focus as it provides support not only to the young person but also to their families/carers.

The Program’s focus regarding the young person is aimed at enabling him/her to experience a range of options and opportunities as they work toward the transition to adulthood. This support may mean that over the course of their individual program young people may take on a changing role within the family, participate increasingly in the life of their community as well as build on existing relationships and recreational interests. Some young people will also wish to explore vocational goals.
Assistance through the Program is twofold. Firstly, young people and their families will be assisted by Supports Facilitators to identify their needs and goals and to explore the range of possible formal and informal supports required to assist them work toward their individual goals. Secondly, the Program provides individualised funding which is used to purchase the identified supports and services.

Target Group:

Moving Ahead aims to assist those young people who, on leaving school, are not able to access State funded education and prevocational programs and vocational programs funded by the Commonwealth government.

To be eligible for the program, a young person must:

- be 18 years old when they enter the Moving Ahead Program; and
- be exiting or have exited special school or special education programs and/or services; and
- have a level of disability which results in high and complex support needs; and
- be eligible for assistance under the Queensland Disability Services Act, 1992; and
- not have access to tertiary education, vocational training or employment options.

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible Agency: Disability Services Queensland

Contact: Coordinator of Post School Support Services & Adult Lifestyle Support Programs
          Ph: (07) 3224 2234

Website: www.disability.qld.gov.au

Local Area Coordination
(also addresses recommendation 18 & 22)

Local Area Coordination is a service provided by Disability Services Queensland, which supports people with a disability and their families who live in the local community. The local area coordinator works with people with disabilities, their families and the local community to bring about positive changes that:

- assist people with a disability live independently and participate in the community;
- assist families in their continued provision of care and support; and
- result in communities becoming more welcoming and inclusive of people with disabilities and their families.

Target Group:

Specific rural and remote areas of Queensland have been targeted to be service by a local area coordinator. The service targets people with a disability as defined under the Queensland Disability Services Act (1992).

Coverage:

Gympie, Hervey Bay, Murgon, Kingaroy, Mundubbera, Emerald, Longreach, Roma, Chinchilla, Charleville, Cunnamulla, Mt Isa, Mareeba, Mossman, Cooktown and Thursday Island.

Timeframe: Ongoing
Friendship Program
(also addresses recommendation 16, 22 & 23)

The Friendship Program aims to enhance the opportunity for people with a disability to form friendships with other in the community by:

- Encouraging friendship support through services and community groups;
- An individual support strategy.

Target Group:

Encouraging Friendship Support strategies are targeted to disability services and community groups.

Individual support is available to people with a disability aged 18 – 65 years. People who have limited friendship networks and do not have a supportive service to help them to develop and maintain friendships will be given priority in accessing individual support.

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible Agency: Disability Services Queensland

Contact: State Coordinator
Ph: (07) 3224 0630

Website: www.disability.qld.gov.au
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 23

Victoria

Koori Recruitment and Career Development Strategy

This strategy recognises the need to have more Aboriginal officers in Victoria Police and correctional facilities with a priority to have them employed in policy and program development in all justice agencies. Strategy includes:

- Employment targets across all areas of the Justice Portfolio;
- Scholarship programs for Aboriginal students studying law, criminology, police studies and other justice-related courses;
- Scholarships and a mentoring program
- Placement opportunities for Koori trainees within the justice system;
- Development of a support network for Koori employees.

Target group: Koori tertiary students, government trainees and employees

Coverage: Victorian Public Service and the Victorian Indigenous community

Timeframe: 2000 - 2005

Responsible Agency: Indigenous Issues Unit Portfolio Planning, Department of Justice

Website: www.justice.vic.gov.au

Action Plan for School to Work Transition for VCE Students

Implementation of an Action Plan to increase successful school to work transition mechanisms for VCE students through increasing participation rates of Victorian students in part time (school based) traineeships and apprenticeships.

Target group: Students with a post school employment destination, Students at risk of not completing Year 12

Coverage: Victorian Students in Years 10 to 12

Timeframe: 2002 - 2005

Responsible Agency: Office of Training and Tertiary Education, Department of Education and Training

Website: www.det.vic.gov.au/det/
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 23

Northern Territory

Indigenous Youth Employment Strategy for Alice Springs

The development of this strategy is being sponsored by the Commonwealth Department of Employment and Work Relations and has facilitated the collaboration and cooperation of government agencies, non-government agencies and the private sector in Alice Springs to develop and support this strategy.

The development of the strategy will be completed by April 2002 and the implementation of strategy elements should commence later in the year. The strategy will focus on supporting the private sector to employ young Indigenous people in Alice Springs. Through the strategy support will be available for young Indigenous people who have traditionally had difficulty in accessing and maintaining full time employment.

Elements of the strategy will include increasing private sector awareness of youth needs; linking with school based programs and supporting employers to participate in work experience and New Apprenticeship programs; providing a point of contact for employers to access programs to support Indigenous employment; providing mentoring support for employers and employees; and encouraging and supporting part time employment of Indigenous students to increase understanding of work culture.

Target group: Young Indigenous people of Alice Springs

Coverage: Alice Springs

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of the Chief Minister.

Website: www.nt.gov.au/dcm/
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 23

South Australia

Partnership and Outreach Education Models (POEMs)

Regional networks will ensure broad cross sectoral partnerships involving the education, community and business sectors are instrumental in building education and training pathways for young people unable to participate in mainstream education.

POEMS will be developed where:

- Education and training services are delivered in settings where young people gather and are comfortable
- Local partnerships involving youth and community agencies, schools, training providers and local employers are essential
- Education and training approaches are developed and delivered in consultation with young people
- Foundation and employability skills are a primary focus

Young people at risk or disconnected have:

- opportunities to develop their understanding of work culture.
- Vocation experiences in supportive and well supervised work settings
- Opportunities to participate in SWL, obtain employability competence in IT use.

Target group: Young people who are disconnected from mainstream education and training

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: 2002-2003

Responsible agency: DETE - Enterprise and Voc. Ed.

Website: [www.dete.sa.gov.au](http://www.dete.sa.gov.au)

Transition Support Networks

Regional networks will, through Transition Support Networks develop approaches to career and transition support which will provide assistance to young people and their families. It will be driven by local partnerships and will allow regional networks to respond collaboratively to the needs of young people and the local community.

The project aims to support transition support networks to:

- Set their own locally relevant objectives within the agreed Career and Transition Management Framework
- Design their own advisory and planning structures and local action structures
- Pool local, state and CW bodies to support local initiatives
- Support 13-19 year olds, especially young people who are disconnected from schools or are at risk of leaving school early, by strengthening their abilities to make successful transitions to post school options.
Target group: 13 -19 year olds, especially those who are at risk or disconnected
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: 2002-2003
Responsible agency: DETE - Enterprise and Vocational Education
Website: www.dete.sa.gov.au

**TAFE Programs for Indigenous Youth**
Accredited programs delivered for Indigenous young people in areas of high demand for Indigenous communities.
Target group: Early school leavers and young CDEP participants
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: Up to 3 years
Responsible agency: DETE-Office of VET
Website: www.dete.sa.gov.au

**Regional Training Program**
Regional Organisations eg Regional development Boards, Local government etc enter into formal funding arrangements with the Minister for Employment and Training and are contracted to engage registered training providers to deliver accredited training as part of a negotiated regional package directly linked to local training priorities, identified regional skill shortages and employment opportunities identified in the State VET plan.
Target group: Unemployed persons. (Note: At least 75% of the negotiated hours are notionally for school leavers)
Coverage: 16 regions of the State
Timeframe: 2001-2002
Responsible agency: DETE-Office of VET
Website: www.dete.sa.gov.au

**Pre-apprentice Trade Training Program**
Funds support the delivery of training and placement of young people aged between 16 and 24 into apprenticeships
Target group: School leavers
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible agency: DETE-Office of VET
Website: www.dete.sa.gov.au

**VET Infrastructure for Indigenous Australians**
Provides funds for additional training infrastructure for indigenous Australians
Target group: Indigenous Australians
Aboriginal Apprenticeship Program

The program supports the delivery of 60 Aboriginal apprenticeships across South Australia. The apprenticeships are targeted to private sector enterprises in growth industries. Companies employing apprentices are funded on a sliding scale.

Target group: Aboriginal people who have achieved year 10

Community Employment Assistance Program

The program provides opportunities for jobseekers who are disadvantaged in their search for employment to acquire skills, experience and support necessary to find employment. The target group includes:

- Long term unemployed young people.
- Indigenous
- Mature aged
- Migrants
- People with a disability
- People who are rurally isolated
- Families experiencing intergenerational unemployment

The program provides financial incentives to employers to employ jobseekers. Long term unemployed young people are one of the groups targeted by this program.

Target group: Long term unemployed young people are one of the groups targeted by this program

Government Youth Traineeship Scheme

The scheme is an accredited National Training Wage placement for 12 months in the public sector and in the community and private sectors in industry growth areas.

An additional incentive is available to agencies / organisations who place young people who:

- Are deemed long term unemployed
- Are of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent
- Have a declared disability
- Are currently or have previously been under the Guardianship of the Minister for Human Services.
Job Readiness Training Course

Short pre-vocational courses focussing on resume writing and interview skills for Government Youth Traineeship Scheme applicants from targeted groups who are deemed ineligible for New Apprenticeship Access Program.

The targeted groups include young people who:

- Are deemed long term unemployed
- Are of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent
- Have a declared disability
- Are currently or have previously been under the Guardianship of the Minister for Human Services

Youth Employment Program

The program annually provides numerous traineeships and graduate positions for young people. The young people recruited are supported through induction and mentoring programs, with supervisors being trained on the specific needs of working with youth.

Target group: Young people aged under 29 for the broader program, under 24 for specific elements including traineeships

Coverage: State wide, including traineeships in regional National Parks

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: DEH, OCPE, DETE

Initiatives targeting Recommendation 23

New South Wales

Part-time Traineeships in NSW Schools program

The Part-time Traineeships in NSW Schools program provides senior secondary students with the opportunity to include a recognised VET qualification within their Higher School Certificate and to combine this with paid work.

The VET in Schools Directorate is seeking partnerships with a range of corporate employers to participate in the program. Partnerships have been established with Visy Industries, Big W, Coles, McDonalds, Toyota and Holden.

Target group: Senior secondary students in government schools.

Coverage: State wide. Over 1000 government senior secondary students have commenced a school based traineeship since the Part-time Traineeships in NSW schools program was first piloted in 1998.

Timeframe: Ongoing.


Website: www.det.nsw.gov.au
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 23

Tasmania

Tasmanian School Based Traineeships

School-based New Apprenticeships have been developed to allow young people to commence employment based training while completing year 11 and 12 of their education

Coverage: State wide

Time frame: Revised guidelines were developed and released during 2001

Responsible Agency: Office of Post-Compulsory and Education

Website: www.ovet.tas.gov.au
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 23

Western Australia

**VET In Schools**

New Apprenticeships - 300 school-based traineeships

- 90 Aboriginal students in 2001
- another 200 Aboriginal students in 2002

Target group: Post compulsory students

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible Agency: Department of Education

Website: [www.eddept.wa.edu.au](http://www.eddept.wa.edu.au)

**Apprenticeship and Traineeship Support Network**

The network provides support to employers, apprentices and trainees. The support services include advice on the rights and obligations of apprentices and trainees, the available training options and general administration.

Target group: Employers, apprentices and trainees

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Training

Website: [www.training.wa.gov.au](http://www.training.wa.gov.au)

**GetAccess**

GetAccess is an interactive website for Western Australians seeking career, employment and training related information and services.

Target group: All age groups and youth specifically

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Training

Website: [www.training.wa.gov.au](http://www.training.wa.gov.au)

**Career Plus Caravan**

Career caravan is a mobile service with a resource supervisor/career counsellor providing career counselling and information services.
Priority Access

This initiative aims at using government procurement and contracting policy to increase the training and employment opportunities for young Western Australian job seekers.

Target group: Any age, but young people specifically
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible agency: Department of Training
Website: www.training.wa.gov.au

Jobworks

Jobworks aims to provide employment through enterprise-tailored training for young people who experience difficulty in accessing mainstream employment and training services.

Target group: Youth at risk
Coverage: State wide
Timeframe: 2002
Responsible agency: Department of Training
Website: www.training.wa.gov.au

Training Information Centre

The centre offers advice and printed material on career planning and employment services. The Job Search Guide program also provides career guidance in January each year from the centre.

Target group: School leavers
Coverage: Perth Metropolitan
Timeframe: Ongoing
Responsible agency: Department of Training

The New Apprenticeships Access Program (NAAP)

The NAAP program provides job seekers who experience barriers to skilled employment, with pre-vocational training, assistance to obtain and maintain a New Apprenticeship and other forms of assistance.

Target group: Disadvantaged youth
Coverage: State wide
Group Training Scheme

Group Training Schemes provide a system whereby apprentices and trainees are indentured/registered to a central body and placed with host employers on a rotational basis to provide workplace-training experience.

Target group: Employers, apprentices and trainees

Coverage: State wide

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Training

Website: www.training.wa.gov.au
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 23

Australian Capital Territory

Skills 500

The Skills 500 program is aimed at getting more employers involved in New Apprentice training and improving employment outcomes in the Territory. The ACT Government offers ACT employers a financial incentive for employing out-of-work people as New Apprentices. The objective of the program is to have 500 currently out-of-work people placed into New Apprenticeships. New Apprentices are trained in the latest systems and technologies. They bring these skills back to local businesses helping them to keep up to date with industries.

The program is directed towards students in danger of dropping out of school, people who have been out of work for more than 3 months and people working less than 10 hours per week.

Target Group: Young people aged 14-18

Coverage: Territory wide

Timeframe: Ongoing as funding allows

Responsible Agency: ACT Department of Education and Community Services

Contact Information: Training and Adult Education, (02) 6205 7088,


Indigenous Employee Mentoring Program

The ACT Government has taken steps to improve the employment prospects of the ACT's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community by awarding the ACT and Region Chamber of Commerce and Industry a contract to run an Indigenous Employee Mentoring Program.

The Chamber has already conducted a successful three-month pilot program of five Indigenous people with two mentors in the hospitality industry. The pilot showed that the participants gained confidence, and that employers' misconceptions about employing Indigenous people were broken down. After the success of the pilot, the Government has decided to proceed with the program, expanding it to around 15 participants at any time across a broader range of industries. There is no cost to participants, however, participants do need to be in employment. The program is scheduled to begin in early May.

The program will be important in providing positive employment experiences for Indigenous people and will help address possible barriers to ongoing employment, assist participants to overcome feelings of alienation and isolation in the workplace, and provide cultural awareness training and feedback to employers so they can better support Indigenous employees. The program will bring real benefits for Canberra's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Target Group: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders
Coverage: Territory wide
Timeframe: Ongoing as funding allows
Responsible Agency: ACT Department of Education and Community Services
Contact Information: Training and Adult Education, (02) 6205 7088
Initiatives targeting Recommendation 23

Commonwealth

Jobs Pathways Programme (JPP)

The Jobs Pathway Programme assists young people aged between 15-19 who intend to make the transition from school to work, further education or training within the following 12 months. JPP service providers are contracted by the Commonwealth to provide a range of services to eligible young people.

Target group: The Programme specifically targets assistance to young people in one or more of the following groups:

- those who are participating in a school-industry programme which does not entail an employment outcome;
- those that would benefit from a school-based New Apprenticeship;
- those with poor literacy and numeracy skills;
- those from a non-English speaking background;
- those whose highest level of secondary studies is or was Years 9, 10, or 11; and
- Indigenous Australians

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing

Responsible agency: Department of Education, Science and Training

Website: [www.dest.gov.au](http://www.dest.gov.au)

Career and Transition (CATS) Pilots

During the 2002 school year, twenty three Career and Transition Pilot (CATS) projects across Australia are exploring methodologies for and testing ways to enhance career and transition support to young people aged 13-19 years. The pilot projects will offer improved career and transition information, support, guidance and advice and will include the development of individual learning pathways plans focusing on young peoples transitions through school and from school to further education, training and work, prepared with the support of dedicated Transition Advisors. Local partnerships between schools, the community, government and industry as well as links with families are an integral part of these projects.

The CAT projects have been developed as part of the Government's response to the Youth Pathways Action Plan Taskforce's Report Footprints to the Future, in particular to recommendations 4, 5 and 6.

The Career and Transition (CAT) Pilots contain four major components:

- Community Partnership Committees;
- dedicated Career and Transition Advisers;
- Learning Pathways Plans for young people aged 13 - 19; and
- testing ways of tracking the transitions of young people for 18 months post school
Target Group: Young people aged 13-19

Geographical Coverage: 23 projects will operate across a variety if setting in metropolitan, regional and remote areas of Australia.

Timeframe: 12 months from April 2002

Contact details:
Director
Transition Partnerships Section
Enterprise and Career Education Branch
Department of Education, Science and Training

Responsible agency: Department of Education, Science and Training

Website: [www.dest.gov.au](http://www.dest.gov.au)

**Career Counselling Programme**

The purpose of the Career Counselling Programme is to help people establish or redefine their employment, education and training goals and develop career management, research and decision making skills, against a background of self knowledge and a realistic understanding of the world of work.

Job seekers who are having trouble deciding what they want in a career and needing direction—whether it is deciding on a course of study, upgrading their existing skills or just finding the right job—can receive assistance through Career Counselling.

Career counselling involves attending a group counselling session and/or an individual counselling session with professional counsellors, informed about labour market opportunities, taking a pro-active approach in assisting unemployed people through a range of activities which can include:

- exercises that identify and match their goals, interests and abilities;
- exploring the range of jobs available within their various areas of interest and possibly their physical locations;
- directing the people to information on educational requirements and if necessary educational preparation programmes;
- developing career research and decision making skills;
- assisting individuals develop strategies towards employment in their chosen careers;
- developing a realistic understanding of the world of work; and
- assisting participants to develop or revise an action plan.

**Target Group:**

- any job seeker on benefit,
- young people aged 15-20 years old, who are not eligible for income support but who are registered with Centrelink as a job seeker, and
- Return to Work programme participants

Geographical Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
Director
Career Services Section
Department of Education, Science and Training
Ph: (02) 6240 5227

New Apprenticeships

A New Apprenticeship is an apprenticeship or traineeship which offers new training flexibilities, new support service arrangements and opportunities in more industries than before.

New Apprenticeships can cover full or part-time work. The part-time arrangements are also available to school students. New Apprenticeships involve a combination of paid work and structured training and must be underpinned by a training agreement which is registered with the relevant State/Territory Training Authority.

New Apprenticeships Centres are a support service established by the Commonwealth Government. They provide information on New Apprenticeships to employers, New Apprentices and other interested parties. They also administer the Commonwealth incentives payments. These incentives are aimed at increasing New Apprenticeships opportunities by supporting employers in the public, private and community sectors to offer ongoing employment and structured training opportunities to New Apprentices.

Target Group: Many New Apprentices are young people, some starting at school, however, adults can be trained under the New Apprenticeships programme.

Geographical Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
Branch Manager
New Apprenticeships Branch
Vocational Education and Training Group
Department of Education, Science and Training
02 6240 7338

Initiative Website address: http://www.newapprenticeships.gov.au/

Responsible agency: Department of Education, Science and Training

New Apprenticeships Access Programme (NAAP)

NAAP works with job seekers who experience barriers to employment, by providing pre-vocational training, support and assistance. The programme helps clients obtain and successfully participate in a New Apprenticeship. NAAP provides formal training followed by a two month job search period in which participants are assisted to find a New Apprenticeship or general employment. NAAP is administered, on behalf of the Commonwealth, by State/Territory Training Authorities, Group Training Australia, and a number of direct providers.

Target group: Over 70 per cent of participants are aged 14-24 years. To be eligible for NAAP, participants must meet the following key criteria:

- be an Australian resident, or hold permanent residency status;
- be registered with Centrelink for employment or income support assistance; and
- meet at least one of a range of eligibility criteria to confirm disadvantage in the labour market.

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact information:
Director
Pre Vocational Training Section
Vocational Education and Training Group
DEST
naap@dest.gov.au
Website: www.naap.dest.gov.au

Responsible agency: Department of Education, Science and Training

**Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI) Indigenous Education and Employment Project**

Through the provision of Structure Workplace Learning placements, ACCI will provide services to improve the education and training participation outcomes of Indigenous youth aged over 14 years.

**Target Group:** Indigenous young people aged over 14 years

**Coverage:** National

**Timeframe:** June 2000 to May 2003

**Contact:** Branch Manager Indigenous Policy Development and Co-ordination Branch Ph: (02) 6240 7720

Website: www.ieep.com.au

Responsible Agency: Department of Education, Science and Training

**ECEF - National Geographic Coverage**

The Enterprise and Career Foundation will extend its Work-placement Coordinator arrangements into remote areas of central and northern Australia, ensuring national coverage. The Work-placement Coordinator activities involve promoting partnerships between industry and education at the local level in order to offer students structured work-place learning placements.

**Target Group:** Young people in remote areas, Indigenous young people

**Coverage:** Northern and Central Australia

**Timeframe:** July 2001 to June 2005

**Contact:** Director Enterprise Partnerships Section Enterprise and Career Education Branch Ph: (02) 6240 8898

Responsible Agency: Department of Education, Science and Training through the Enterprise and Career Education Foundation


**Job Placement, Employment and Training Programme (JPET)**

JPET provides a holistic approach to assisting young people overcome problems preventing them from maintaining stable accommodation and entering into full-time education, training or employment.

JPET offers ongoing support and referral services to young people to help them overcome a range of problems, including housing, substance abuse, family difficulties, sexual or other abuse, lack of self esteem, income support, and other barriers to employment, education or training.

The most common strategies implemented across all target groups were personal support, job search assistance and training assistance. Income advocacy and financial assistance were also common strategies;
Target Group: JPET assists students and unemployed young people between 15-21 years who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless (with priority to be given to those aged 15-19 and to homeless young people). Assistance is also provided to young people who are/or have been wards of the State, are refugees or have been in the juvenile justice system.

Coverage: 136 agencies are contracted to deliver services throughout Australia

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Youth Bureau, Programs Branch, FaCS
Ph: 02 62129437

Website: http://jpet.facs.gov.au/

Responsible Agency: Family and Community Services

**Personal Support Programme**

The Personal Support Programme will provide funding to assist people who have multiple barriers to employment. The new programme will replace and expand the Community Support Programme (CSP) that is administered through the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations.

The Personal Support Programme will provide assistance to the most vulnerable job seekers, including people with barriers such as homelessness, drug and alcohol problems, psychological disorders and domestic violence problems.

Centrelink will refer people with significant non-vocational employment barriers to service providers funded under the programme. Service providers will provide them with assistance or link them to other government or community organisations that provide the sorts of help they need. By 2004-2005 the new programme will be assisting 45,000 people.

The new programme will help people to stabilise their circumstances and enable them to achieve outcomes that match their abilities and capacity. These will include social as well as economic outcomes. Participants will have up to two years of support and assistance in the Personal Support Programme.

For many participants, an appropriate outcome will be to transfer to Intensive Assistance to get help to find work. Others will undertake study or training or volunteer activities. For others with more severe barriers, the Personal Support Programme will help them to address their personal barriers (e.g., find stable accommodation, attend drug or alcohol or other counselling services) and increase their involvement in the community.

Target Group: People with non-vocational barriers to employment such as homelessness, drug and alcohol problems, psychological disorders and domestic violence problems.

Coverage: National

Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:
Assistant Secretary
Participation Support Branch, FaCS
Ph: (02) 62448563
facst.internet@facs.gov.au

Australians Working Together

Australians Working Together - Helping people to move forward is a major package of initiatives offering significant support and services to help people to help themselves. Young job seekers will benefit from many Australians Working Together (AWT) initiatives announced in the 2001-02 Budget. Young people will also benefit from the improvements to employment services under AWT.

AWT builds on the Government's employment assistance and mutual obligation policies that have attracted widespread support amongst participants and the broader community.

The new system is providing improved personalised assessment and service, more opportunities for training and work experience, better incentives, and reasonable requirements for people to find work, increase their earnings or contribute to their communities.

Centrelink will be the gateway to the new system. Centrelink Personal Advisers will provide a high level of service to people needing additional help to overcome personal or other barriers.

Under AWT young people will have access to more places in Literacy and Numeracy Training, Job Search Training, and Work for the Dole and can earn Training Credits by participating in Work for the Dole and Community Work. Vulnerable and at risk young people will benefit from the better assessment processes in Intensive Assistance and the linkages between Intensive Assistance and other programmes. Young people will also benefit from other initiatives such as the Working Credit (which encourages people on income support to take up full-time, substantial part-time or casual work) and the new Personal Support Programme (designed to help people with problems such as homelessness, and drug and alcohol addiction) that replaces the Community Support Programme. Coverage: National

Timeframe: July 2001 - June 2005

Contact details: together@dewrsb.gov.au

Initiative Website address: http://www.together.gov.au/

Responsible Agency: Shared policy responsibility between Family and Community Services, Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, and Department of Education, Science and Training

Mutual Obligation

Mutual obligation applies to all job seekers who are receiving unemployment payments (Newstart and Youth Allowance (other)). In particular, job seekers aged 18 to 24 years who have been on unemployment payments for 6 months, and those aged 25 to -34 years who have been on unemployment payments for 12 months.

From 1 July 2002 all job seekers aged between 18 and 49 years will be required to nominate a mutual obligation activity at the six month point of their unemployment.

Since 1 July 2000, job seekers have been required to enter into a Preparing for Work Agreement when they claim unemployment payments. As part of the Preparing for Work Agreement, job seekers are required to nominate which mutual obligation activity they will undertake when they have been unemployed for six months. The list of activities available includes, part-time work, Work for the Dole, and Literacy and Numeracy training.

Target Group: Job seekers in receipt of an unemployment payment aged 18 to 34 years (18-49 years from July 2002)
Job Network

Job Network is a national network of private, community and government organisations, which have been contracted by the Government to find jobs for unemployed people, particularly those who are long term unemployed. Job Network organisations offer flexible and tailored assistance to job seekers depending on their level of need.

Job Network provides five services; Job Matching; Job Search Training; Intensive Assistance; New Enterprise Incentive Scheme; and Project Contracting- Harvest Labour Services".

Young people have been given special consideration in the establishment of Job Network. All young people aged 15 to 20 years and registered as unemployed and not in full time education or training, are eligible for assistance from Job Network members, irrespective of whether they are in receipt of income support

Target Group: Job seekers

Coverage: Around 2000 sites nationally

Timeframe: Ongoing

Job Network - Intensive Assistance

Intensive Assistance provides individually tailored assistance and support to get long term unemployed people, or those at risk of becoming long term unemployed, into jobs. Job Network members have the flexibility to decide with a young person the best form of assistance to get them a job or to assist them to return to education or take up training. This may include the provider using their fees to provide vocational training, language and literacy training or employer incentives such as a wage subsidy or workplace adjustments. Currently, services are provided for between 12 and 15 months depending on the level of job seeker disadvantage, with a provision to negotiate an extension of up to 6 months. From July 2002, under Australians Working Together (AWT), the period of Intensive Assistance will be up to twelve months for all job seekers except those who are referred to Intensive Assistance immediately following participation in the new Personal Support Programme. These job seekers will receive up to 18 months of Intensive Assistance.

Job Network members are contracted to provide services to all eligible job seekers including eligible young people (called a "generalist service"). Specialist Intensive Assistance services cater to the needs of a number of different groups. There are three specialist youth providers operating from 11 sites in NSW, Victoria, Queensland and Western Australia. In general, the focus of Intensive Assistance and its regime of outcome payments is on getting job seekers into employment. However, in line with
the government's concern that young people should be encouraged to complete Year 12, Job Network members providing Intensive Assistance are eligible to claim a full outcome payment if they assist a young person 15 to 20 years of age who has not completed Year 12 or equivalent, to complete two semesters of an eligible education or training course. Under Australians Working Together, Intensive Assistance providers will have the flexibility to refer job seekers to beneficial complementary programmes before commencing Intensive Assistance eg, Work for the Dole, the new Personal Support Programme or to Literacy/Numeracy training. Young people form part of many groups, such as parents, Indigenous Australians, people with disabilities and special needs, who have been specifically targeted in AWT. Young people will have access to the same resources as other members of these key target groups, including access to Personal Advisers. Young people, like other unemployed people, will benefit from employment services initiatives contained in Australians Working Together. From 1 July 2002, for example, they will have access to more places in Job Search Training, and if eligible, Training Credits in Work for the Dole and community work.

Target Group: Long term unemployed people, or those at risk of becoming long term unemployed.

Coverage: Intensive Assistance is offered from more than 1,100 sites nationally

Timeframe: Ongoing

Website: www.dewr.gov.au

Responsible Agency: Department of Employment and Workplace Relations

**Australians Working Together - Work for the Dole**

The main objective of the Work for the Dole programme is to give unemployed people worthwhile work experience opportunities in projects of value to local communities.

A secondary objective of the programme is to allow unemployed people to satisfy their mutual obligation in return for their unemployment payments, by giving something back to the community which supports them. The Government's mutual obligation policy encourages more active job search and participation in activities which improve their work skills and habits.

Under Australians Working Together there will be an additional 16,500 Work for the Dole places for 2002 to 2005 for job seekers through Community Work Coordinators. Each participant will receive personal training that covers resume development, providing written references and updating job seeker skills in the last week of Work for the Dole. Training credits, of up to $800 are also being introduced for job seekers who meet minimum attendance and participation requirements. Training Credits can be used to pay for vocational training.

Target Group: Certain types of job seekers may be required to participate in Work for the Dole, if they are not fulfilling their mutual obligation through other means, for six months in each twelve months that they remain eligible. The following people may be required to participate in Work for the Dole if they are on the full rate of unemployment payments:

- 18 to 19 year old Year 12 school leavers who have been receiving Youth Allowance as a job seeker for three months or more;
- 18 to 24 year old job seekers who have been receiving Newstart or Youth Allowance for six months or more; and
- 25 to 34 year old job seekers who have been receiving Newstart Allowance for 12 months or more.

From 1 July 2002, for job seekers 18-49 years, Mutual Obligation applies after 6 months on unemployment payments. For 18-39 year olds, Work for the Dole will be...
Indigenous Employment

The Indigenous Employment Policy (IEP) was introduced in 1999 in response to concerns about the high indigenous unemployment rate and the particular disadvantage experienced by Indigenous clients in the labour market. There are three main elements to the Indigenous Employment Policy - the Indigenous Employment Programme, the Indigenous Small Business Fund and assistance for indigenous job seekers through Job Network. The Indigenous Employment Programme has a number of elements including, the Corporate Leaders for Indigenous Employment Project, the Structured Training and Employment Projects (STEP), the National Indigenous Cadetship Project and Wage Assistance, that provide flexible financial assistance to employers to assist in achieving sustainable employment outcomes for Indigenous Australians. A particular focus of the policy is to target jobs in the private sector. The IEP makes a positive contribution to getting more Indigenous youth into jobs.

Currently, there are no specific participation targets for young Indigenous job seekers in the IEP however, indigenous youth (under 24 years of age) accounted for 49% of placements made under indigenous employment programmes from 1 April 2001 to 30 March 2002. Given the particular demographic profile of Indigenous Australians in which the median age is 19 years (compared to 35 for the total Australian population) the Government is conscious of the emerging issue of increasing demand for targeted employment assistance for indigenous youth. Partnerships between the Departments of Employment and Workplace Relations and Education, Science and Training are of being strengthened to further improve the coordination and delivery of assistance to indigenous youth.

Under the Australians Working Together package, indigenous job seekers will get more personalised help from Centrelink, Job Network Members, Community Work Coordinators and other providers. The first Indigenous Employment Centres (IECs), announced as part of Australians Working Together, have commenced operation and more will commence from 1 July 2002. Under this initiative, Community Development Employment Project (CDEP) organisations may be contracted to take on the additional role of IECs, providing further help to indigenous people in areas where job opportunities exist to obtain work. By 2004-05, IECs will have provided job search support, work experience, access to accredited training, and ongoing mentoring and support to up to 10,000 CDEP participants. By working with local employers and Job Network members, the IECs will encourage people to find work and help them retain it. This initiative, developed in consultation with ATSIC, complements the successful IEP.

Many existing programmes are being expanded or changed to provide more individual help. There will be greater support for job seekers to work or to take part in their community or to do work experience or training. They will keep more income if they do casual or part-time work. Indigenous job seekers (including young job seekers) in Job Search Training and Intensive Assistance will be able to access a training account to gain work-related skills. Under AWT, there will be more practical ways to promote self-reliance for indigenous people.

Target Group: Indigenous job seekers
Coverage: National
Youth Employment Forums

Two Youth Employment Forums were held in April 2002, in part, to address some of the issues raised in the 'Footprints to the Future' report, and also to feed into policy development for the Job Network. The first of the Forums was held on Friday 12 April 2002 in Logan City, Queensland and the second on Friday 19 April in Parramatta, New South Wales.

The overall objective of the Forums was to identify and improve the employment outcomes for youth, particularly 15 - 20 year olds. The Forums aimed to increase the linkages between Job Network members and the local community and youth service networks. To this end, the Forums were intended to:

- provide participants with opportunities to raise concerns and issues about the way in which Job Network operates in relation to young people;
- raise the awareness of attendees of Job Network services and the way that these services can assist young job seekers particularly after the implementation of Australians Working Together (AWT);
- enable attendees to obtain up to date information about the opportunities available to young job seekers to help improve participation, retention and employment outcomes for young job seekers in Intensive Assistance; and
- ensure the Department has a greater understanding of the issues facing young jobseekers, and the barriers they may encounter, both within and outside of the Job Network.

Attendees included local youth, Job Network members, youth intermediaries (such as youth workers, counsellors, School counsellors etc) and relevant local council, State and Commonwealth public servants.

Target Group: Youth, Youth intermediaries (such as youth workers, counsellors, School counsellors etc) and relevant local council, State and Commonwealth public servants and Job Network Members.

A Youth Servicing Strategy for Centrelink

The Youth Servicing Strategy for Centrelink has been developed in partnership with the Department of Education, Science and Training; Department of Family and Community Services, Department of Workplace Relations and Centrelink as part of the Government’s response to the Footprints to the Future report. The Strategy will respond to: the need for holistic outcomes for young people; breaching; increased participation in education and training; welfare dependency through early intervention strategies; adequate support for youth at risk; and fostering collaborative partnerships within the youth service sector. System. Elements of the Strategy are already being progressed but it is expected that the national implementation of the Strategy will be rolled out to the network from 1 July 2002.

Target Group: Youth

Coverage: National
Timeframe: Ongoing

Contact details:

National Manager
Youth and Student Community Segment
Centrelink
Ph: 02 6244 6269

Website: www.centrelink.gov.au/

Responsible Agency: Centrelink
## Stepping Forward - Sharing What Works

### Links to Government Youth Sites

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